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ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION

> JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE BILL SUMMARIES JUNE 1984

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the Second Regular Session of the lllth Legislature. The summaries are arranged alphabetically, and indexed separately by committee.

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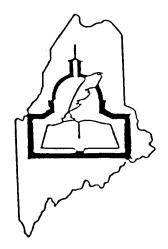
STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON

LOCAL AND COUNTY

BILL SUMMARY



MAY, 1984

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- 1853 AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE LAW CONCERNING CERTAIN APPEALS FROM PLANNING BOARD DECISIONS
- SUMMARY: The bill allows boards of appeals in municipalities to hear appeals of the actions of planning boards. The existing language allowed only appeals of decisions of individual officials.
- 1854 AN ACT TO ALLOW PLANTATIONS McBreairty OTP -A TO DETERMINE WHEN TO HOLD PL 83, C. 601 THEIR ANNUAL MEETINGS
- SUMMARY: The bill removes the requirement that plantations hold their annual meeting in March. It thereby allows them to hold the meeting in June and consider the plantation budget in conjunction with the school budget.

The Committee Amendment (S-280) added an emergency clause so the provisions can take effect this year.

| 1880 | AN ACT TO ENABLE COMMUNITIES | Rotondi | OIP -A |
|------|------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| | TO ESTABLISH TOWN FOREST | | PL 83, C. 634 |
| | RESERVE ACCOUNTS | | · |

- The original bill provided for the establishment of town forest SUMMARY: reserve accounts by municipalities with town forests. Since municipalities already had this authority under home rule but plantations did not, the bill was amended by the Committee (H-469) to allow plantations to establish forest reserve accounts and to indicate that municipalities could establish such accounts under their home rule authority.
- 1950 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR PL 83, C. 607 Kelleher REAPPORTIONMENT OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS
- The bill was passed without reference to a committee. SUMMARY: It reapportions county commissioner districts, as constitutionally required.

A floor amendment in the Senate (S-282) added an emergency clause and a floor amendment in the House (H-456) corrected certain errors and omissions in the original bill.

- 1961 AN ACT CONCERNING TERMS OF Pray OTP-ND OFFICE OF CERTAIN COUNTY LD 2222 COMMISSIONERS WHOSE DISTRICTS ARE AFFECTED BY REAPPORTIONMENT
- SUMMARY: The bill added language to existing law on terms of commissioners reapportionment, by which the terms of office for after commissioners elected on a county-wide basis shall be for 4 years.

Questions were raised on the constitutional implications if voters in some towns might vote more often than others for commissioner, and an Attorney General's opinion was sought on this issue. Another bill draft, not printed, provided both for staggered terms, and for delaying the implementation of reapportionment until 1986, so that all commissioners would serve a 4-year term.

The Attorney General's opinion concluded that delaying full implementation in order to preserve staggered terms would be constitutional both as to procedure and to the principle of population equality.

The Committee discussed the relative merits of a phase-in and the clarification of terms before the submission of filing papers; 2 members were opposed, because a Commissioner preferred a 6-year term.

- 1984AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE A SELF-
LIQUIDATING BOND ISSUE FOR
YORK COUNTY TO CONSTRUCT AN
ADDITION TO THE YORK COUNTY
JAILG. CarrollOIP-ND
LD 2161
- SUMMARY: This emergency bill authorized York County to spend up to \$364,000, raised through bonds, plus \$75,000 of the unexpended 1982 surplus, for an addition to the jail.

| 2002 | AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OR | Baker | MAJ-ONTP |
|------|-------------------------------|-------|---------------|
| | DISPOSITION OF FORT CORGES IN | | MI N-OIP -A |
| | CASCO BAY | | P&S 83, C. 70 |

SUMMARY: The intent of the original bill was to provide the State the first option of purchasing Fort Gorges if the City of Portland decides to sell it. The bill established a procedure for negotiating the price and set a one year time limit for the sale. The Minority Report (H-481) amended the bill by shortening the time period to 6 months.

This report was accepted, though a Senate Amendment (S-294) replaced the bill with the straightforward provision of giving the State the right of first refusal to purchase the Fort. In addition, it stipulated that the City of Portland had to notify the State of any purchase offer within 48 hours of the offer and that the State had the right to purchase the Fort at the offered price.

6