

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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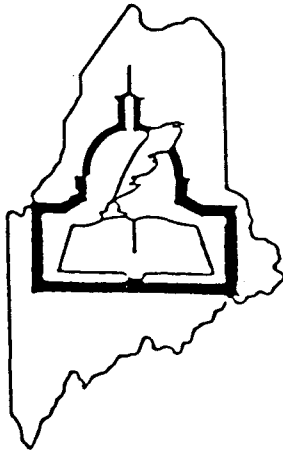
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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 111th Legislature. The summaries are arranged alphabetically, and indexed separately by committee.

STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT
BILL SUMMARY



MAY, 1984

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| <u>LD</u> | <u>TITLE</u> | <u>SPONSOR</u> | (Committee Report) <u>DISPOSITION</u> |
|-----------|---|----------------|--|
| 2256 | RESOLUTION, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF MAINE TO ENABLE THE LEGISLATURE TO ESTABLISH THE EXTENT OF INSURANCE OF LOANS TO VETERANS | Gwadosky | CONST.RES., 1983, C. 6 |

SUMMARY: LD 2256 proposes for voter ratification, a provision already approved, in part, by the Legislature during the First Regular Session of the 111th Legislature. This provision would allow the Legislature to establish the extent to which small business loans to veterans could be guaranteed. In addition, LD 2256 authorizes these loans to veteran business organizations, held or owned in the majority, by a resident Maine veteran.

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|------|---|----------|------------------------|
| 2402 | AN ACT RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF REGISTERED BONDS | Violette | OTP PL 1983, C. 745 |
|------|---|----------|------------------------|

SUMMARY: This bill provides that Maine bonds be in registered form and thereby in compliance with federal law. Thus, Maine bonds will continue to be tax-exempt.

BILLS NOT ENACTED

| | | | |
|-------------|---|----------|-------|
| 1970 | AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE APPROVAL BY THE GOVERNOR OF LEVELS OF COMPENSATION FOR INDEPENDENT AGENCIES | Kelleher | LV/WD |
|-------------|---|----------|-------|

SUMMARY: LD 1970 proposed to allow the Governor to review and approve salaries and wages of employees of independent agencies. The bill did not define "independent" agencies or distinguish between policy-makers and technical employees. The sponsor suggested specifying the Maine turnpike Authority, the Maine State Housing Authority, the Health Care Finance Commission, the Finance Authority of Maine, and the State Lottery Commission.

The Committee examined 10 agencies and considered the alternative of establishing statutory salary ranges for policy makers in 4 or 5 agencies. The sponsor withdrew the bill because he was committed to Gubernatorial review and not legislative oversight of these salaries and wages.

The Committee rejected Gubernatorial review because the Governor could use salaries and wages to "politicize" an independent agency which was established as an independent organization for the purpose of removing politics from the agency. The Committee recalled the situation which arose between Roberta Weil and Governor Longley who prohibited the PUC from employing Ms. Weil as an economist with the PUC at a salary acceptable to both parties.

The sponsor asserted that there is a lack of standards by which salaries and wages for independent agencies are determined. In some cases, the independent agency pays substantially higher wages and salaries than a state agency is authorized to pay for similar powers and responsibilities of employees.