

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.

<u>LD</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>DISPOSITION</u>
2038	AN ACT TO PERMIT REASON- ABLE VISITATION RIGHTS FOR GRANDPARENTS WHEN A PARENT IS DECEASED	Ketover	ONTP

SUMMARY: This bill sought to permit a grandparent to petition a court in the division or county where the grandchild resides, for the right to visit with his or her grandchild when that child's parent, the son or daughter of the petitioning grandparent, has deceased.

2039	AN ACT TO INCLUDE HANDI- CAPPED PERSONS AS A PRO- TECTED GROUP UNDER THE MAINE HUMAN RIGHTS ACT	Bell	LV/WD
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SUMMARY: This bill sought to amend the Maine Human Rights Act to make it illegal to deny credit solely on the basis of physical handicap. Other sections of the Human Rights Act concerning housing, employment and public accommodations discrimination preclude discrimination against the physically and mentally handicapped. An amendment to this bill, proposed at the public hearing, suggested precluding credit discrimination because of mental as well as physical handicap. The bill was withdrawn simply because work needs to be, and is being, done to improve the definition of "physical handicap" in the Act.

2044	AN ACT TO INCREASE THE DOLLAR LIMITATION FOR CASES WHICH MAY BE BROUGHT IN SMALL CLAIMS COURT	Baldacci	PL 1983, c. 678
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SUMMARY: Increased the dollar limitation for cases which can be brought in Small Claims Court from \$1,000 to \$1,400. Although the committee discussed creating two filing fees, based on the amount claimed for recovery, the final decision was to continue to let the courts set the fee.