

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
LEGAL AFFAIRS  
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

LD: 19 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR TOXICOLOGICAL TESTS  
IN THE EVENT OF A RECREATIONAL BOATING  
FATALITY

ALLEN  
MATTHEWS Z  
CLARK H  
CONNERS

LU-WD HOUSE Accepted Committee Report  
SENATE Accepted Committee Report  
GOV

SUMMARY:

This bill would have required operators of watercraft involved in fatal accidents to submit to blood-alcohol tests to determine if they were operating under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

LD: 29 AN ACT CONCERNING THE POSSESSION OF  
FIREWORKS  
ND: 755

PAUL  
GREENLAW  
FOSS  
SIMPSON

OTP-ND HPO543 HOUSE Accepted Committee Report  
SENATE Accepted Committee Report  
GOV

SUMMARY:

The original bill just clarified the definition of "possession" of fireworks. Based on information from the State Fire Marshal's Office, the Committee decided to rework the entire chapter on fireworks. See L.D. 755.

LD: 33 AN ACT RELATING TO ABSENTEE VOTING

KANY  
BERUBE  
CHONKO  
MELENDY  
PUBLIC  
CH # 357

OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted  
SENATE Enacted  
GOV SIGNED

|       |    |        |   |   |
|-------|----|--------|---|---|
| H-308 | CA | REEVES |   |   |
| H-322 | CA | PERRY  | H | S |
| H-325 | CA | HANDY  |   |   |
| S-129 | CA |        | H | S |
| S-144 | CA | DANTON | H | S |

SUMMARY:

The original bill removed the notary requirement for absentee ballots to encourage balloting through the mails. It also removed a source of improper influence.

The Committee Amendment replaced the entire bill and incorporated almost all the changes in absentee voting which the Committee approved (See LD 1594). The Amendment made it easier to obtain absentee ballots, eased eligibility for voters who are working during the entire time the polls are open, allows voting in the clerk's presence, and relaxed the witness requirements. Candidates and their immediate families were prohibited in witnessing ballots. The amendment also lists the specific reasons why a ballot may