

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
STATE GOVERNMENT  
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.

responsibility for acquiring all the necessary licenses and permits be placed on the contractors and subcontractors. A subsequent Senate Amendment (S-211) prohibited the charging of license and permit fees for licenses and permits for state building construction, renovation, and rehabilitation. These amendments eliminated the \$175,000 fiscal note from the bill.

LD: 521 RESOLVE, ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION TO REVIEW UPPER MANAGEMENT IN STATE GOVERNMENT THERIAULT  
MARTIN J  
GWADOSKY  
VIOLETTE

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

SUMMARY:

LD 521 proposed to establish a 6 member commission to study policy-making, policy-influencing and management positions in State Government. The commission would be charged with the responsibility of developing a policy and criteria to determine which positions are appointed and which positions constitute management.

The committee, in general, did not perceive the study as a top-priority because there does not appear to be a significant problem with respect to the present system. Some persons believed that the intent of the study was to declassify more positions and thereby jeopardize the integrity of some positions which should be protected from the political process.

LD: 548 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT FINANCING OF COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSELS UNDER ALL FINANCING PROGRAMS OF THE FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE MANNING

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

SUMMARY:

LD 548 proposed to prohibit the financing of fishing vessels under all financing mechanisms of the Finance Authority of Maine.

The purpose of the bill was to prevent out-of-state fishing vessel owners/entrepreneurs and out-of-state ship building facilities from exploiting the financing programs of the Finance Authority of Maine.

This bill is the result of an application to FAME for \$500,000 of financing for the construction of a fishing vessel with municipal revenue obligation bonds of the City of Portland. The Finance Authority of Maine,

following city approval of the application, reviewed the project and found no basis by which FAME could disapprove the project for funding. The project did not violate any statutory or regulatory criteria.

Following much concern by some of the citizens and legislators in the Portland area, FAME promised to postpone the hearing on the application until the 112th Legislature convened. The applicant eventually withdrew the application.

In order to attract business expansion from out-of-state, FAME argues that the residency of the applicant should not be a deterrent to financing prospects under FAME law.

The issue of this bill, however, differs from many other types of projects planned by FAME. According to proponents of the bill, an out-of-state entrepreneur can finance a fishing vessel through FAME and operate his vessel entirely outside the state waters, including the landing of the catch. Unlike other projects which have capital investments in land and buildings that remain in the State, fishing vessels are mobile and can be easily removed from the State.

Nevertheless, machinery and equipment financed by FAME for manufacturing firms is mobile and can be removed from the State.

The bill was withdrawn on the premise that the issue would be addressed in a general revision of the FAME statutes. This revision, LD 1118, requires every project to meet a public purpose and to have minimum contact with the State as provided in rules adopted by the agency.

LD: 549 RESOLUTION, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF MAINE REDUCING THE SIZE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO 99 MEMBERS BROWN D

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

SUMMARY:

This bill proposed to reduce the size of the House of Representatives to 99 members as a means of providing more efficiency and flexibility in the legislative process and to reduce costs of State Government.

The bill was rejected, in part, because there has not been any degree of public demand to increase the size of legislative districts and thereby reduce the number of representatives.