

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

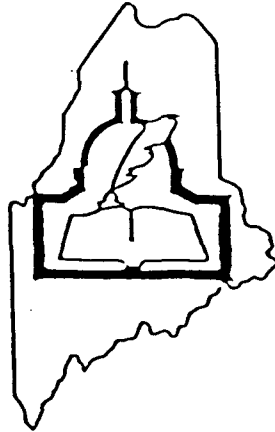
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT
BILL SUMMARY



MAY 1986

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
MAY 1986

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

All Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "CA" if it is a committee amendment. If the amendment was adopted in the House, the letter H appears after the sponsor. If it was adopted in the Senate, the letter S appears.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-AM	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

In LD 2143, the new draft of LD 628, the Office of Fiscal and Program Review is required to prepare fiscal notes for bills and resolves that describe the fiscal impact on political subdivisions of the State. In addition, the Governor is required to designate a state agency to develop fiscal impact statements describing the fiscal impact of rules on political subdivisions of the States.

With the information provided by this bill, state legislators and state agencies, it is argued, can make better decisions about the bills and rules under consideration.

The on-going costs of the proposal are estimated to be roughly \$130,000 a year. Roughly \$25,000-\$100,000 of additional monies will be required to conduct renovations for additional staff persons in the Office of Fiscal and Program Review to undertake the duties imposed by the bill. The bill failed passage because of the cost imposed.

LD
697

RESOLUTION, PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE
CONSTITUTION OF MAINE TO CHANGE THE
REAPPORTIONMENT PROCEDURES TO REFLECT CHANGES
IN LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES AND TO

ND LD 2252

Sponsor: MACBRIDE, Martin, J., Sewall, Pray
Committee Report: OTP-ND

SUMMARY: The bill was passed in new draft, LD 2252 which:

1. Allows the commission to make nonsubstantive corrections in the reapportionment plan presented to the Legislature when the commission members are unanimous with respect to the propose corrections;
2. Provides that 8 members of the 15-member commission shall constitute a quorum. Currently, a quorum consists of 7 members which means that one political party with all its members present on the commission can conduct official commission business in the absence of all the members from the other political party;
3. Requires the Legislature to establish a budget for the apportioning commission in the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year in which the commission convenes; and

4. Provides that any public money made available to the commission shall be made available equally to all political parties represented on the commission. The bill limited the money to 2 political parties which intended to apply to the Democratic and Republican Parties. In the future, a 3rd or 4th political party could be the major party or the ranking minority party represented in the House of Representatives or Senate. Thus, 3 or 4 parties could be represented on the commission.

LD AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MAINE COURT FACILITIES
1504 AUTHORITY

Sponsor: CARPENTER, Kane
Committee Report: ONTP

SUMMARY: LD 1504 was referred to the Committee on State Government from the Committee on Judiciary at the end of the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The bill was held by the Committee until the Second Regular Session.

LD 1504 proposed to establish an independent State agency with the authority to issue bonds, notes, and loans, the proceeds of which could be used only to construct, reconstruct, or improve court house facilities. The bonds would be paid with revenues derived from rental charges paid by the courts to use the new court buildings. The rental fees, supposedly, would be provided in the budget and approved by the Legislature for the judiciary.

The Committee was concerned about:

1. the lack of criteria for membership on the Authority,
2. the absence of a limit on the amount of bonds that could be outstanding at any one time,
3. the fiscal note of \$25,000 which assumes the equivalent of one person for 1 day per week,
4. several other costs not specifically addressed by the fiscal note,
5. establishing another independent agency when an existing agency such as FAME could undertake the responsibility, and
6. the circumvention of general public approval for new court room facilities.