

# 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.

LD: 697 RESOLUTION, PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF MAINE TO CHANGE THE REAPPORTIONMENT PROCEDURES TO REFLECT CHANGES IN LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES AND TO HOUSE. Ref'd to Committee SENATE Ref'd to Committee GOV MACBRIDE MARTIN J SEWALL PRAY

SUMMARY:

LD 697 proposed several changes in the procedures for reapportionment of the Maine Legislature which occurs every 10 years. The proposed changes were controversial, and the Committee voted to hold the bill until the Second Regular Session when more information will be available.

LD: 739 AN ACT TO PROVIDE A PREFERENCE IN STATE EMPLOYMENT TO OFFICERS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE NAJARIAN

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

SUMMARY:

LD 739 proposed to give former commissioned officers in the United State Military and who are currently retired from active service, a 5 point preference with respect to positions in the classified service. In addition, the unmarried widow or widower of a retired commissioned officer is provided a 5 point preference. The preference proposed in the bill did not require the retired commissioned officer to have served in a campaign.

The bill did not provide for a 5 point preference for retired non-commissioned officers. By making the distinction between commissioned officers and non-commissioned officers or between officers and enlisted personnel, the bill added an entirely new dimension to the statutes providing preferences to veterans. All current preferences (6) are awarded to veterans regardless of their rank.

As a result of the distinction proposed by the bill, the committee rejected the bill.

LD: 740 JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING APPLICATION TO CONGRESS CALLING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION TO PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT TO THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION TO REQUIRE A BALANCED FEDERAL HEPBURN HIGGINS L

ONTP HOUSE Accepted Committee Report SENATE Accepted Committee Report GOV

SUMMARY:

LD 740 proposed that the Maine Legislature adopt a Joint Resolution requesting Congress to call a Constitutional Convention to propose a Constitutional Amendment Requiring a Balanced Federal Budget. The budget would be balanced except in time of war or except when 3/5 of the elected members of each house agree to an "unbalanced" budget. The resolution would be void in the event that the Constitutional Convention addressed any other issues.

Opponents to the Resolution feared that a Constitutional Convention could address an unlimited number of issues and thereby significantly alter the current constitution. The issues of abortion, school prayer, school bussing, etc. could become the central issues. In addition, the opponents were concerned that the resolutions passed in each state which call for a Constitutional Convention are not identical. The opponents, therefore, proposed a Joint Resolution requesting Congress to prepare an amendment requiring a balanced budget to be approved by the States. This resolution passed both Houses.

LD: 764 AN ACT CONCERNING FINANCING OF COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSELS UNDER ALL FINANCING PROGRAMS OF THE FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE MANNING NADEAU G

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

SUMMARY:

LD 764 proposed to establish criteria for FAME financing of fishing vessels. The criteria required:

- A. the commercial fishing vessel to be constructed in Maine,
- B. the commercial fishing vessel to operate from a base port in Maine,
- C. all the fish caught and stored in the vessel to be landed in Maine; and
- D. at least 80% of the total fish catch of the vessel to be landed in the State.

The purpose of the bill, according to the Statement of Fact, was to insure that fishing vessels financed by FAME are constructed in Maine, operate from a Maine port, and land and process fish in the State. This bill attempted to establish a public purpose for financing fishing vessels for which public monies are put at risk.