

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
JUDICIARY  
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: 813 AN ACT RELATING TO NIGHT COURT SESSIONS  
FOR SMALL CLAIMS COURT

KANY  
MARTIN J  
KANE

OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted  
SENATE Enacted  
GOV SIGNED

PUBLIC  
CH # 368

S-163 CA MAJ REP H S  
H-299 HA/CA PARADIS P H S

SUMMARY:

Provides another year of testing of the use of night sessions of Small Claims Court by removing the current July 1, 1985 sunset on these provisions and replacing it with a November 1, 1986 sunset. Each District Court must be available at least one hour, one evening each month, or one hour on a Saturday each month, to hear small claims actions.

LD: 814 AN ACT RELATING TO PROSTITUTION

GILL  
CARPENTER  
STETSON

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

SUMMARY:

Sought to include in the crime of prostitution offering to engage in digital contact with the patron's sex organs in return for a pecuniary benefit. Current law refers to the crime of prostitution including sexual intercourse or a sexual act, but not sexual contact.

LD: 815 AN ACT RELATING TO THEFT OFFENSES

GILL  
MACOMBER  
CARPENTER  
LEBOWITZ

OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted  
SENATE Enacted  
GOV SIGNED

PUBLIC  
CH # 239

S-82 CA H S

SUMMARY:

Adds prior convictions for burglary with the intent to commit theft and robbery, a crime in which theft or attempted theft is always an element, to those already listed in the Maine Criminal Code to be used in classifying new theft charges as Class C. This change is in keeping

with the intent of the Criminal Code that persons with a history of at least 2 prior property theft offenses should be charged with Class C offenses in any new theft conduct. Also allows new attempted theft offenses to be charged as Class C, which is consistent with the policy determination that prior attempted theft convictions may be used in classifying new theft offenses as Class C.

LD: 821 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A STATE UNIFORM LAW ON NOTARIAL ACTS CHALMERS  
MAYBURY  
MELENDY  
MAYO

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

SUMMARY:

Sought to replace the Uniform Recognition of Acknowledgements Act, adopted in 1969, with the Uniform Law on Notarial Acts.

LD: 854 AN ACT TO AMEND THE DISCLOSURE OF LICENSING RECORDS REGARDING ADULT AND CHILD CARE PROGRAMS TO CLARIFY PROCEDURES RELATING TO VITAL STATISTIC RECORDS AND CLARIFY OFFICIALS AUTHORIZED TO ACT AS PUBLIC GUARDIANS OR CONSERVATORS UNDER THE PROBATE CODE CARROLL  
GILL  
BRODEUR  
TAYLOR

OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted PUBLIC  
SENATE Enacted CH # 437  
GOV

H-407 CA H S

SUMMARY:

Clarifies who may assist the Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and the Commissioner of the Department of Human Services (DHS) in acting as public guardians, defines the circumstances under which vital records may be amended, adds a definition of "abuse and neglect" to the statutes concerning disclosure of records of certain facilities licensed by the DHS, and further clarifies these licensing statutes with regard to mandatory disclosure of child or adult abuse or neglect information by the DHS to an investigating law enforcement agency.