

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.

challenged franking and telephone charges of House members in cases where they seemed to violate the Post Office standard or legislator ethics.

LD: 1307 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE OFFICE OF THE SMALL BUSINESS OMBUDSMAN

BOTT
MURPHY T
ZIRNKILTON
MARTIN J

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

SUMMARY:

LD 1307 proposed to create an Office of the Small Business Ombudsman to serve as an advocate of small business and provide services to small business. The bill was proposed not only to assist small business, the backbone of the Maine economy, but also to improve the state's business climate rating. In addition to the ombudsman, the bill established a small business Advisory Council.

The bill was withdrawn following the suggestion that the Joint Select Committee on Economic Development study the issue and make recommendations to the Legislature.

LD: 1322 AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENTAL OVERSIGHT

SPROUL
RACINE
SIMPSON
MAYBURY

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

SUMMARY:

LD 1322 proposed to establish a "hotline" by which individuals could report abuse of authority, mismanagement, negligence, fraud, and violations of laws and rules to the staff of the Joint Standing Committee on Audit and Program Review. If the committee staff and the committee members determined that there was substantial likelihood that the information reported via the "hotline" was correct, the committee would notify the department or agency, in writing, of the problem. The department or agency would then be required to conduct an investigation and issue a written report. The report from the department to the Committee would include a description of the investigation, the evidence obtained, the violations of laws or rules, and any corrective measures that will be taken.

A copy of the agency report to the Audit and Program Review Committee would be provided to the original