

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
LOCAL AND COUNTY 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:	1425	AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT AND DISMISSAL OF COUNTY EMPLOYEES	TUTTLE
RE-REF		HOUSE Enacted SENATE Enacted GOV SIGNED	PUBLIC CH # 292
S-150		CA MAJ REP	H S

SUMMARY:

The original bill would require that any public employee who is covered by a collective bargaining agreement may be dismissed, suspended or disciplined by his department head only for just cause. If dismissed, the dismissal must be approved by the county commissioners. Majority report amendment S-150 replaced the bill with a provision requiring prior approval by the county commissioners or personnel board before a department head can dismiss any county employee.

LD:	1455	AN ACT TO REVISE THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN EMERGENCY COUNTY OFFICERS (REPORTED PURSUANT TO A JOINT ORDER; HP56)
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OTP		HOUSE Emerg. Enacted SENATE Emerg. Enacted GOV EMER SIGNED	PUBLIC CH # 196
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SUMMARY:

This is the regular, annual county officers salary bill.

LD:	1460	AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE A SELF-LIQUIDATING BOND ISSUE FOR THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A COURTHOUSE ADDITION, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE	NAJARIAN DILLENBACK NELSON COOPER
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OTP-AM		HOUSE Enacted SENATE Enacted GOV	P AND S CH #50
H-250		CA MITCHELL	
H-251		CA MITCHELL	
S-160		CA	H S
S-165		CA BLACK	
S-241		CA TUTTLE	H S

SUMMARY:

This bill is to authorize a Cumberland County bond issue for the Portland Courthouse for an addition, capital improvements and a related parking facility. The request is for an issue of \$6,600,000 for 30 years.

Cumberland County currently has a yearly debt service of \$175,000 in principal and \$121,000 in interest. This is due to the recreation center and there are 9 years left on this debt. On an absolute basis, Cumberland's debt service is about double that of any other county. However, relative to its available credits, it is in line with other counties. With the addition of the proposed issue its ratio of debt to available credits would exceed any other county, though Franklin is close.

Committee Amendment A accomplishes the following:

1. Eliminates the mention of other facilities;
2. Requires that the bonds be retired in 20 years not 30;
3. Requires that the bonds be issued within 5 years and the funds expended within 10 years;
4. Eliminates the cost to the State of the referendum. This is a cost to the county;
5. Requires that the referendum be at the next state election, not at the discretion of the commissioners;
6. Adds a statement concerning debt service and bonded indebtedness to the referendum question;
7. Indicates in the referendum the division of the use of the proceeds between the court facility and the parking facility; and
8. Requires that the number of voters in the referendum be at least 20% of the total that voted in the last gubernatorial election.

House Amendment A to Committee Amendment A eliminates the parking facility from the bill.

House Amendment B to Committee Amendment A brings the courthouse and the parking facility to the voters in separate referenda questions.

Senate Amendment A to Committee Amendment A is identical to House Amendment A.

Senate Amendment B to Committee Amendment A is identical to House Amendment B.