

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

Prepared by:

Ted Potter, Legislative Assistant
Office of Legislative Assistants
State House, Station 13 Augusta, Maine 04333
(207) 289-1670



STATE LAW LIBRARY
STATE HOUSE

HELEN T. GINDER, DIRECTOR
HAVEN WHITESIDE, ASST. DIRECTOR
GILBERT W. BREWER
DAVID ELLIOTT
MARTHA FREEMAN
CHRISTOS GIANOPOULOS
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR.

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANTS
ROOM 101
STATE HOUSE, STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-2486

SARAH HOOKE
JULIE S. JONES
JOHN B. KNOX
EDWARD POTTER
MARGARET J. REINSCH
LARS RYDELL
JOHN SELSER
ANDREA COLNES, RES. ASST.

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.

- A. Bonds pledging the faith and credit of the State to guarantee loans by the Finance Authority of Maine;
- B. Bonds issued by the Maine School Building Authority;
- C. Bonds not exceeding \$1,000,000 in total, to insure mortgage loans for the construction and rehabilitation of Indian housing of the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Indian tribes;
- D. Bonds pledging the faith and credit of the State to guarantee loans under the Maine Veterans Small Business Loan Program; and
- E. Industrial Revenue bonds (FAME, MSHA).

Between 1978 and 1983, there were 9 bond questions with a total cost of \$93,010,000 approved by the public at referendum. The 9 bond questions included a total of 21 projects. These bond questions pertain only to General Fund obligation bonds.

Proponents of the bill argued that the voters should have the opportunity to vote on individual projects and not be required to approve a group of projects when one or more projects within the group were not acceptable to the voters.

Opponents argued that:

1. the proposed legislation could only apply to the 112th Legislature because one legislature cannot bind future legislatures,
2. the Legislature currently can issue bond questions for each individual project without the enabling legislation, and
3. the bill would result in the discrimination against projects in smaller communities in which the general public had very little interest.

LD: 1559

ND: 1202

AN ACT RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
OVER THE COMPENSATION SYSTEM FOR STATE
EMPLOYEES

PRAY
DIAMOND J
PERKINS
MURPHY T

HOUSE Enacted
SENATE Enacted
GOV SIGNED

PUBLIC
CH # 289

H-208 HA GWADOSKY H S

SUMMARY:

LD 1202, the original bill, proposed to establish a study

committee entitled the Implementation Committee to conduct a "Comparable Worth" Study and to devise the means for implementing the findings and recommendations of the study. The 15 member committee consists of

- A. 3 legislators appointed by the Legislative Council (both parties must be represented)
- B. 6 members each representing a collective bargaining unit with 5 or more classifications of state employees and who are selected by the collective bargaining agent of each unit
- C. 6 members, appointed by the Governor.

The "Comparable Worth Study" is the result of the labor negotiations between the State and MSEA held in 1983. As a result of the labor contract, a labor management committee was formed to conduct a "Comparable Worth Study." The provisions of the 1983 agreement were extended into the existing labor management agreement.

The labor management study committee on Comparable Worth is looking at occupational classifications in State Government to determine whether some classifications are dominated by male or female employees. In addition, the study committee is looking at different occupations to determine whether comparable skills, education, responsibilities and accountability in the various occupations are compensated at similar levels of pay. In other words the study is an attempt to see whether there is "built-in" sex-bias in state government.

The bill was opposed by Mrs. Patricia Truman of Hallowell who argued that the bill would result in an astronomical cost to the State.

The Personnel Department and the Maine State Employees Association suggested an amendment that repealed the original bill. The new draft, LD 1559, ensures that all bargaining units covered under the State Employees Labor Relations Act shall be covered by one job evaluation system (includes comparable worth). It also provides that bargaining over the compensation system will involve representatives of each of those bargaining units. The new draft is not intended to diminish or expand the rights and duties of the collective bargaining parties under other provisions of the State Employees Labor Relations Act or under other laws.