

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

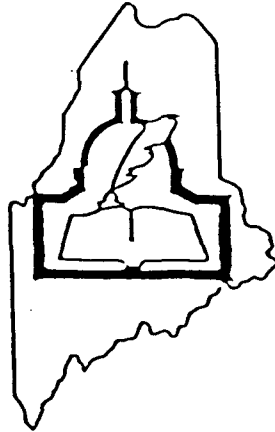
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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
STATE GOVERNMENT  
BILL SUMMARY



MAY 1986

PREPARED BY:

Edward Potter, Legislative Analyst

OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
STATE HOUSE, STATION 13 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
(207) 289-1670



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

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
ROOM 101/107  
STATE HOUSE STATION 13  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

JULIE S. JONES  
JOHN B. KNOX  
EDWARD POTTER  
MARGARET J. REINSCH  
LARS H. RYDELL  
JOHN R. SELSER  
ANDREA L. COLNES, Res. Asst.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
MAY 1986

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the Second Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "CA" if it is a committee amendment. If the amendment was adopted in the House, the letter H appears after the sponsor. If it was adopted in the Senate, the letter S appears.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-AM	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Sponsor: PERKINS, Shute, Sewall, Lacroix  
Committee Report: OTP-AM

S-371 CA H S

SUMMARY: LD 1698 proposed to restrict the authority of harbor masters by rescinding their power to make arrests and carry a weapon. This restriction would remove the requirement for a harbor master to complete law enforcement training provided by the Criminal Justice Academy.

The purpose of the bill is to enable municipalities to employ harbor masters who occupy the position primarily as a position of honor or to serve principally as a coordinator and as a regulator of harbor activities for a very limited period of time (3 months).

One police officer who also serves as a harbor master for Brunswick, testified against the bill. He pointed out that the drug trade, illegal trade along the coast, and search and seizure activities require harbor masters to be well trained for these situations.

The State Government Committee approved the bill. In the Committee's opinion, the bill is permissive and allows municipalities to provide harbor masters with police powers where needed. Municipalities may also choose to use municipal police to assist harbor masters who are not empowered with police powers.

**LD** AN ACT TO ADJUST THE RATE OF COMPENSATION OF  
**1718** THE MEMBERS OF THE MAINE HEALTH CARE FINANCE  
COMMISSION

LVWD

Sponsor: GWADOSKY, Brannigan, Najarian, Bustin  
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: LD 1718 proposed to increase the level of per diem compensation from \$100 per day to \$150 per day to be paid to members of the Health Care Finance Commission. The legislation creating the Health Care Finance Commission (HCFC) in 1983 provided for a per diem of \$150 for HCFC members. The \$150 rate was reduced to \$100 in 1984 by legislation (P.L. 1983, c. 812) emanating from a study conducted by the Joint Standing Committee on State Government which analyzed boards and commissions throughout state government.

The State Government Committee study examined powers, duties, and responsibilities of boards and commissions. The boards are categorized according to the powers, duties, and responsibilities, and the standards for compensation are provided in the law.

LD 1718 proposed to make the Health Care Finance Commission the highest paid board in state government. Although this board has significant powers, duties, and responsibilities, there are other boards with similar powers and responsibilities that are paid much less in per diem. In addition, appointments to boards and commissions is considered an honor. Unofficial policy has been to pay per diem rates that do not reflect current market rates for similar duties and responsibilities paid in the private sector.

LD 1743 AN ACT TO AMEND THE MAINE COMMUNITY SERVICES ACT

PL 1985  
c. 527

Sponsor: SIMPSON, Joseph, Randall  
Committee Report: OTP-AM

H-491 CA H S

SUMMARY: LD 1743 proposed a number of technical changes to the statutory provisions governing the operation of the Division of Community Services. Most of the proposed changes were minor. For example, the term "weatherization" has been replaced with "energy conservation." Another more substantive change removes from the Community Services Advisory Board, an elected municipal official who is a local program operator of the fuel assistance program. The local program operator is replaced by a municipal official informed about the concerns of community action agencies.

A committee amendment which was adopted provides a penalty for any recipient who misuses fuel assistance or uses fraudulent means to qualify for fuel assistance.

LD 1748 AN ACT TO ALLOW ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES TO CONTINUE TO ADOPT EMERGENCY RULES WHERE NECESSARY

PL 1985  
c. 528

Sponsor: CHALMERS, Michael, Dutremble, Crowley  
Committee Report: OTP