

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

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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

The minority report passed in the House, but failed in the Senate.

LD
2013

AN ACT RELATING TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

ND LD 2269

Sponsor: GWADOSKY
Committee Report: OTP-ND

SUMMARY: LD 2013 proposed to prohibit service as a member on a board or commission to qualify for state retirement benefits. In addition, the bill:

1. increased the compensation of the Maine Health Care Finance Commission from \$100 to \$150 per day,
2. provided a per diem rate of \$35/day to the State Board of Education, and
3. provided a per diem rate of \$35/day to the Board of Trustees of the Maine Vocational Technical Institutes.

Background

The State Government Committee of the 111th Legislature conducted a study of boards and commissions in 1983. The Committee inventoried boards and commissions of state government and established standards for compensating members of boards and commissions. The law enacted in 1984 establishes the following general standards:

1. No board should be compensated at a rate exceeding the daily compensation rate paid to Legislators at special sessions (\$50/day) unless the board engages in substantive decision making that has a significant impact upon a substantial portion of the general public,
2. advisory board members should not be compensated at a rate exceeding \$25/day,
3. service on a board or commission is an honor, and board members should not be compensated at a rate equivalent to rates paid in the private sector. The board members should be willing to sacrifice time and money to provide service to the State.

The committee also found that some boards were eligible for retirement benefits despite the fact that the members were not state employees. The State Government Committee intended to prohibit this practice by law, but the prohibition was inadvertently omitted.

The Committee unanimously endorsed the bill in new draft, LD 2269. In addition to the provisions of LD 2013, the committee added the following provisions:

1. Professional and occupational licensing boards are required to report their activities to the Secretary of State as required of other boards;
2. A separate activity account for each board is required to show the actual costs, expenditures, and income of each board. These activity accounts are required to reflect solely each board's fiscal activities separate from that of staff or other department activities.
3. Any person serving on more than one board may collect per diem for only the meetings of one board per day no matter how many other boards on which the person sits are meeting on the same day.
4. The actions of a board would be null and void for failure to report to the Secretary of State and for failure to reply to the notice sent to the board by the Commissioner of Finance and Administration,

A Board of Commissions was also established to study the current boards in Title 5, Chapter 379 with respect to compensation, category, the effects of combining boards, and the effects of terminating boards.

Floor amendments to the bill removed the per diem rate for the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine and applied a \$50 fine per day on board members for boards which failed to report to the Secretary of State. This penalty replaced the termination of a board for failure to report. A final amendment which was adopted, removed the penalty and requires the Commissioner of Finance and Administration to report errant boards to the Committee on State Government.

LD AN ACT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO MATURE
2015 INDUSTRIES

LVWD

Sponsor:
Committee Report: LVWD