

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

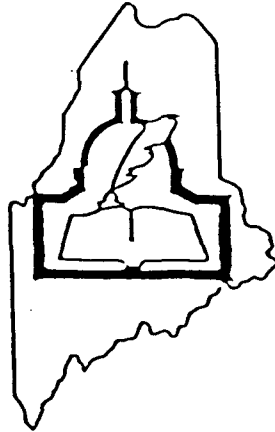
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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 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

SUMMARY: LD 2015 proposed to provide a focused direction to the State's economic development policy which is currently characterized by a shotgun approach that tries to do everything. The bill proposed to establish a state economic development policy that is aimed at rejuvenating depressed mature industries in the State. The bill also proposed to establish a better business climate rating for the State to attract business to Maine.

LD 2015 proposed to achieve the 2 objectives by

- A. providing loans and other financial assistance to mature industries,
- B. changing the policies and direction as well as the title of the current State Development Office,
- C. establishing an image of Maine products as quality made products,
- D. providing tax credits and abatements for investments in mature industries, and
- E. the creation of boards and organizations designed to promote and encourage business and a favorable business climate.

The bill proposed specifically:

A. to require the State Planning Office to

- 1) prepare an annual data book and report on the State economy,
- 2) identify industries and industrial segments likely to be adversely affected by economic trends,
- 3) maintain and analyze information relating to the stabilization of industry in Maine,
- 4) analyze state laws, policies, and rules that affect Maine businesses,
- 5) analyze business problems with a view toward maintaining existing industries;

B. to change the name of the State Development Office (SDO) to the State Commerce and Industry Office, and to change the focus of the office to advocate for and serve the needs of business, particularly mature industries;

C. to require the director and the State Commerce and Industry Office (formerly-SDO) to

1) promote the stabilization of Maine business by reducing business costs and business taxes; providing financial and training incentives; removing regulatory barriers; and expanding markets & promoting Maine products;

2) set quality standards for Maine products;

3) actively search for products that qualify as Maine products;

4) develop an early warning procedure by which firms with 50 or more employees that encounter operating problems can be identified before help is too late (excludes 42% of Maine businesses);

D. establish an economic development strategy for the State that emphasizes financial assistance to and promotion of mature manufacturing industries and the creation of a positive business climate.

E. that the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) implement a mature industries' financing program

F. the creation of the Maine Industrial Advisory Board to initiate and oversee the development of a state strategy for industrial stabilization and development. This board would also intervene in a crisis that affects an industry or company.

G. to create the position of Business Advocate whose primary purpose is to convince the business community that he or she wholeheartedly represents their interests.

H. to create the Center For Mature Manufacturing Industries to link private and educational resources to make Maine manufacturing industries more competitive.

I. provision of tax credits for the purchase of machinery and equipment to eligible manufacturers.

The bill was withdrawn on the condition that the Joint Select Committee on Economic Development would study the report of the Select Committee on the Shoe Industry. As a result, a joint resolution was adopted that requests the Select Committee on Economic Development to study LD 2015.