

# 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

LD RESOLVE, CREATING A STUDY COMMISSION ON  
2016 EMOTIONALLY STRESSFUL JOB CLASSIFICATIONS IN  
STATE GOVERNMENT

LVWD

Sponsor:  
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This resolve was incorporated into LD 2392, the bill that has been enacted and which reorganizes the Department of Finance and Administration and the Department of Personnel.

This resolve proposed to establish a 9-member study commission to develop policies and procedures to reduce emotional stress in positions and job classifications in the Department of Corrections, the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. The study commission would proceed immediately following the effective date of this resolve and report its findings and any necessary legislation to the First Regular Session of the 113th Legislature.

The study commission, according to the resolve, would consist of 9 persons as follows:

1. Four commissioners: The Department of Corrections; the Department of Human Services; the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation; and the Department of Personnel;
2. Three nonsupervisory employees in positions in which there is considerable emotional stress; and
3. Two supervisory employees for positions in which there is considerable emotional stress.

In LD 2392, the structure of the Commission was changed to a 12 member labor-management team to consist of persons from the three departments as proposed in LD 2016.

**LD** AN ACT TO PLACE IN THE UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE 3 PL 1985  
**2028** UTILITY ACCOUNTANT III POSITIONS AT THE PUBLIC c. 628  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Sponsor: GWADOSKY, Kany, Vose, Boutilier  
Committee Report: OTP, ONTP

SUMMARY: LD 2028 places in the "unclassified" service three (3) utility accountant III positions at the Public Utilities Commission.

The purpose of LD 2028, according to the statement of fact, is to establish utility accountant III positions as policy-influencing positions and to ease the recruitment and retention problems associated with the utility accountant III positions. According to the PUC, persons occupying the utility accountant III positions serve as advocates in rate cases and thereby play a very independent role. They advise the commission directly with respect to matters before the commission.

The length of the vacancy rates for the 3 utility accountant III positions have varied. One position, which remains vacant, has been vacant for (9 1/2 months). Another position, recently filled by a Utility Accountant II, was vacant for (8 months). A third position, currently occupied by a person who willingly took an \$11,000 per year pay cut, was vacant for (10 months).

The PUC has 2 utility accountant II positions that are both vacant. One person who recently occupied a utility accountant II position was promoted to the III position because the commission needed the III position for the pending rate cases.

The primary problem is the pay range. Currently utility accountant III personnel are paid at Pay Range 25 (\$20,508-\$28,121.60). The Commission has recruited nationwide and cannot find people to fill the positions (one person took an \$11,000 pay cut but will be leaving soon). The PUC believes that the minimum salary must be \$30,000.

The PUC attempted to reclassify the Chief Utility Accountant's position prior to "declassification" of the position. The Department of Personnel refused because the classification/pay scale process does not include labor market conditions.

The PUC has not tried to obtain a reclassification of the utility accountant III positions because the issue is labor market conditions and not a change in responsibilities or duties.

LD 2040 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT STIPENDS IN STATE GOVERNMENT

ND LD 2040

Sponsor: COTE, Descoteaux, Paradis, P., Bustin  
Committee Report: OTP-ND