

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
JUNE 1987

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. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted 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 "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

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

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

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-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Sponsor: BOTT, Sproul, Bailey  
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: LD 152 proposed to establish within the Executive Department, the Office of the Small Business Ombudsman. In addition, the bill created the 15 member Small Business Advisory Council. The Office of the Small Business Ombudsman would be directed by the Ombudsman who would possess the following powers and duties:

- A. to serve as an advocate for small business
- B. to assist in the coordination of programs among state agencies that affect small business
- C. to serve as a referral agency for small business owners and operators
- D. to conduct research, studies, and analyses of matters affecting small business
- E. to promote and encourage protection of small business
- F. to represent views of small business before other state agencies and
- G. to solicit input from the private sector.

The Small Business Advisory Council, consisting of 15 members, would be composed of 2 Senators and 2 Representatives with equal representation from both parties to be appointed by the Speaker and President of the Senate. The remaining 11 members would not be designated members. They would be appointed by the Governor to 4 year terms. The council would advise the Ombudsman and could make recommendations to the Legislature.

The bill was withdrawn in recognition of the proposals for the creation of a Department of Economic Development which contained provisions for a business facilitation program aimed toward assisting businesses with respect to applying for licenses and completing license and permit applications; referring firms to appropriate sources of assistance; managerial and technical advice; etc.