

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Part I State Government

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

LD AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE AUTHORITY OF THE
393 EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT WITH RESPECT TO
UNCLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES

PL 1987
c. 9
EMERGENCY

Sponsor: MARTIN, J., Pray, Gwadosky, Tuttle
Committee Report: Engrossed Without Reference
Amendments Adopted:
S-2 TUTTLE

SUMMARY: In attempting to recodify the State's Civil Service System, a portion of the Act reorganizing the Department of Finance and Administration provided that classified and unclassified employees are to be treated virtually the same with respect to job status. This bill clarifies the status of the unclassified employees in order not to broadly alter their job status.

LD AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A COMMEMORATIVE DAY IN
403 HONOR OF SAMANTHA SMITH

PL 1987
c. 82

Sponsor: DOW, Kany, Norton
Committee Report: OTP-A
Amendments Adopted:
S-24 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: LD 403 proposed to establish June 29 of each year as Samantha Smith Day. The Department of Education, within the limits of its budget, is required to make appropriate information available to the public and the schools.

Commemorative days are not holidays. Usually the Commissioner of Education is required to provide information, if department resources permit, to the general public and the schools.

The bill was amended to make Samantha Smith Day the first Monday in June, while school is still in session.

LD AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MAINE COURT FACILITIES
428 AUTHORITY

PL 1987
c. 438

Sponsor: CARROLL, Tuttle, Brannigan, Paradis, P.
Committee Report: OTP-A
Amendments Adopted:
H-265 COMMITTEE
H-303 CARROLL
H-304 CARROLL

SUMMARY: LD 428 proposed to establish an independent State agency with the authority to issue revenue bonds, notes, and loans, the proceeds of which could be used only to construct, reconstruct, or improve court house facilities.

The bonds would be paid with revenues derived from rental charges paid by the courts to use the new court buildings. The rental fees would be provided in the budget and approved by the Legislature for the judiciary. The bonds issued by the Authority are not general obligation bonds.

Currently most court facilities are leased facilities (see enclosed letter). For example, of the 33 district courts statewide, 25 are leased space from governmental entities and 7 are leased from private developers. One facility is state-owned. A total of \$1,014,436 will be expended to lease district court facilities for the 1986-87 fiscal year.

One aspect of this issue is the steadily increasing rise in rents over which the state has no control. To some, this bill could help control future costs of the judicial branch of government.

The other aspect of this issue relates to the substantial increase in court cases which has made some facilities inadequate. This bill, to some, could help alleviate the overcrowded court system.

The bill was amended to:

- A. establish a \$15,000,000 bond ceiling;
- B. prohibit the use of Court Facility Authority bonds to finance construction of a new Supreme Judicial Court Facility outside Portland;
- C. require the approval of the Legislature of any court facility to replace an existing court facility located in a county-owned building;
- D. make the Treasurer of State a member of the Court Facilities Authority;
- E. enable the Court Facility Authority to use the Maine Municipal Bond Bank to assist the Authority to issue its bonds.

LD 450 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS RELATING TO COMMUNITY LIVING ARRANGEMENTS ND LD 1723

Sponsor: PRAY, Clark, M., Gauvreau, Carroll
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1723.

SUMMARY: See ND LD 1723.