

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
113TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
JUDICIARY

MAY 1988

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Sen. N. Paul Gauvreau
Sen. Henry W. Black

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* Denotes Chair

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**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST & SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
MAY 1988**

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 for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are indicated as follows::

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

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Secretaries: Charlene Brann, Janet Jean, Earl Knox, Valarie Parlin; Research Assistant Hartley Palleschi. Finally, Secretary Laurette Knox, Legal Assistant Carolyn Chick, and Research Assistant Robert Dunn had special responsibilities in the preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

LD An Act Amending the Workers' Compensation Laws Exempting PUBLIC
 657 Design Professionals from General Civil Liability for 682
 Injuries on Construction Projects

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
CLARK N	OTP-AM	MAJ	S-362 MAJ REP
WEBSTER M	ONTP	MIN	
COLLINS			
BOUTILIER			

SUMMARY

The bill provides immunity from civil liability to design professionals in certain circumstances: A design professional acting within the course and scope of providing professional services at a construction project, or a design professional's employee, is immune from liability for personal injury or death occurring on the project. The immunity applies only if the injured person, or a deceased person's representative, receives workers' compensation for the injury or death, and only if the design professional has no contractual duty for construction site safety.

LD An Act to Establish Policies Governing Medical Malpractice LV/WD
 797 Claims

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
ROLDE	LV/WD		

SUMMARY

The bill sought to set a cap of \$250,000 on damages for pain and suffering in medical malpractice actions and to set a fee schedule for attorneys contingent fees in such actions.

LD An Act to Eliminate Ad Damnum Clause in Cases Involving LV/WD
 820 Unliquidated Damages

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MARTIN J	LV/WD		
PARADIS P			
MARSANO			
PRIEST			

SUMMARY

The bill stated that the statute which prohibits the placing in a medical malpractice complaint of a dollar amount claimed does not apply to a demand for liquidated damages. This issue is addressed in LD 2520.