

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LEGAL AFFAIRS
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

PREPARED BY:

Margaret J. Reinsch, Legislative Analyst

OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
STATE HOUSE, STATION 13 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
(207) 289-1670

HELEN T. GINDER, DIRECTOR
HAVEN WHITESIDE, DEP. DIRECTOR
GILBERT W. BREWER
DAVID C. ELLIOTT
GRO FLATEBO
MARTHA E. FREEMAN, SR. ATTY.
JERI B. GAUTSCHI
CHRISTOS GIANOPOULOS
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR.



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

ROOM 101/107
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

JULIE S. JONES
JOHN B. KNOX
EDWARD POTTER
MARGARET J. REINSCH
LARS H. RYDELL
JOHN R. SELSER
CAROLYN J. CHICK, PARALEGAL
ROBERT W. DUNN, RES. ASST.
HARTLEY PALLESCHI, JR., RES. ASST.
KATHRYN VAN NOTE, RES. ASST.

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
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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

Committee Amendment "A" (H-314) replaces the bill, and makes operating a motor vehicle on a public way while drinking liquor a civil violation.

LD AN ACT AMENDING THE LAWS RELATING TO PRIVATE ND LD 1555
817 SECURITY GUARDS

Sponsor: KANY, Joseph, Erwin, E., Tracy
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1555

SUMMARY: See New Draft, LD 1555.

LD AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXAMINATION OF LAW LVWD
826 ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS

Sponsor: BOUTILIER, Hussey, Joseph
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This bill would require the board of trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy to develop and administer examinations based on Maine law to any person trained at the academy.

LD AN ACT TO CHANGE THE DATE FOR STATEWIDE ONTP
829 PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Sponsor: ARMSTRONG, Whitcomb
Committee Report: ONTP

SUMMARY: This bill would change the statewide primary from the 2nd Tuesday of June to the 2nd Tuesday of September. This would move the filing dates from April 1st to June 1st.

LD AN ACT TO LIMIT THE PENALTY A LANDLORD CAN PL 1987
849 CHARGE A TENANT FOR LATE PAYMENT OF RENT c. 215

Sponsor: MELENDY, Ketover, Bickford, Andrews
Committee Report: OTP-A
Amendments Adopted:
H-149 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: Current law does not address penalties for late payment of rent. This bill allows a landlord to charge a tenant up to the greater of 18% of the amount due for one month or \$10 if the tenant does not pay the rent within 15 days of when the payment is due. (The sponsor intended the percentage to be 18% annually or 1 1/2% of a month's rent.)

Committee Amendment "A" (H-149) changes the permissible penalty to not more than 4% of one month's rent. It also prohibits a landlord from charging any penalty for late

rent unless the landlord provided written notice to the tenant at the time of entering into the rental agreement that a late penalty may be charged.

LD AN ACT TO REQUIRE MONTHLY MONITORING AND LVWD
850 REPORTING OF POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF UTILITY
COMPANIES DURING UTILITY-RELATED REFERENDUM
INITIATING CAMPAIGNS

Sponsor: HANDY, Jalbert, Holt, Reeves
Committee Report: LVWD

project and then account for expenses involved in political campaigns. The purpose is to ensure that utility rates do not reflect the utility companies' expenditures on campaigns.

LD AN ACT TO AMEND THE LIQUOR LAWS AS THEY PERTAIN ND LD 1655
852 TO STATE BREWERS

Sponsor: RAND, Coles
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1655

SUMMARY: See New Draft, LD 1655.

LD AN ACT RELATING TO POSSESSION OF UNUSED LVWD
853 PORTIONS OF WINE AT CATERED EVENTS

Sponsor: RACINE
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: Under current law, a person who hires a caterer who serves wine cannot keep any opened bottles of wine which are left over after the catered event. This bill would allow caterers to distribute the opened bottles of wine to the person who hired the caterer.

LD AN ACT GIVING THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL, DEPUTY INDEF PP
886 AND INSPECTORS FULL LAW ENFORCEMENT POWERS

Sponsor: MATTHEWS, Z., Kany, Richard
Committee Report: OTP-A (Majority)
ONTP (Minority)

Amendments Adopted:
S-109 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: Current law provides that the State Fire Marshal, the deputy and the inspectors have the same law enforcement powers and duties as sheriffs have, except that their powers are limited to carrying out their fire-related