

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

PREPARED BY:

Ted Potter, 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
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DAVID C. ELLIOTT
GRO FLATEBO
MARTHA E. FREEMAN, SR. ATTY.
JERI B. GAUTSCHI
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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
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HARTLEY PALLESCHI, JR., RES. ASST.
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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

LD
1151

AN ACT TO CREATE THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TO ESTABLISH
CONSISTENCY AMONG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LAWS
(Reported Pursuant to Resolves, Chapt. 45
and 53 of 1985)

ND LD 1808

Sponsor: SELECT COMMITTEE on Economic Development
Committee Report: ND LD 1808

SUMMARY: LD 1151 was the product of the Joint Select Committee on Economic Development which itself was the product of the study conducted by the Joint Standing Committee on State Government in 1984. The Select Committee composed of 15 members selected by the Governor, Speaker of the House, and President of the Senate, recommended the creation of a Department of Economic Development and a cabinet level committee to develop an economic development strategy for the State.

LD 1151 proposed to create the Department of Community and Economic Development to replace the State Development Office, revise the purpose and responsibilities of the Maine Development Foundation to be more consistent with their operation and with those of the new department, and to establish a capital budget and planning process.

The intent of LD 1151 was to coordinate economic development efforts of state agencies to make these efforts more efficient and effective. In addition, the intent of the bill was to design a system in which both the Legislature and the Governor would be more involved in policy and evaluation of implementation than previously occurred. In order to achieve these goals, the bill proposed to provide more information to the Governor and the Legislature, particularly through the budget process and reports prepared by the department.

LD 1151 also provided that the Maine Development Foundation MDF could serve purposes that it currently fulfills but which are not part of its statutory purpose. As a result, the MDF would serve to bridge the knowledge and communications gap between the public and private sectors. The loan authority of the Maine Development Foundation was removed.

LD 1151 also established a capital planning and budget process. This process involved the creation of an inventory of capital facilities and projects through the state which include infrastructure facilities (roads, sewerage treatment facilities, etc.), schools, public buildings, port facilities, etc. Following the inventory of these facilities and proposed projects, a budget would be established to finance the construction, reconstruction, or repair of these facilities or projects.

Currently there is no review or overview of the capital facilities and projects of the State. The proposal in LD 1151 would give the Legislature a picture of the capital structure and needs of the state including all levels of government.

The Select Committee on Economic Development opted for a business facilitator and facilitation program to work with other state agencies and with applicants for licenses and permits to facilitate the regulatory process for everyone. The Select Committee perceived an atmosphere of cooperation to be essential rather than the adversarial approach which could create worse roadblocks.

LD 1808 is a new draft of LD 1151, LD 1495, and LD 1024. Please refer to Page 20 for the summary of LD 1808.

LD 1192 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR JOB TRAINING TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS LVWD

Sponsor: RUHLIN, Pearson, Crowley, Martin, J.
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This bill proposed to establish a Job Development Training Program to be administered by the Maine Vocational-Technical Institute System Office. The program would have awarded grants to educational institutions to conduct training projects within qualifying private enterprises to create new jobs.

The Job Development Training Program, funded at \$1,000,000 each fiscal year, would have awarded grants on a competitive basis based on statutory criteria including number of jobs created, skill levels of new jobs, wages of new jobs, etc.

LD 1254 RESOLVE, REQUIRING THE GOVERNOR TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR GREATER COORDINATION OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (Reported Pursuant to Resolves Chapt. 45 and 53 of 1985) ND LD 1748 EMERGENCY

Sponsor: SELECT COMMITTEE on Economic Development
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1748

SUMMARY: See New Draft, LD 1748.