

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
JUDICIARY  
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

PREPARED BY:

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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 1083 AN ACT TO REMOVE STATUTORY PROTECTION FOR THOSE WHO SEXUALLY ASSAULT VOLUNTARY SOCIAL CAMPANIONS ND LD 1693

Sponsor: PARADIS, P., Gauvreau, Maybury, Joseph  
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1693

SUMMARY: See New Draft, LD 1693.

LD 1091 AN ACT TO PREVENT CRIMINALS FROM PROFITING AS AN INDIRECT RESULT OF THEIR CRIME ND LD 1775

Sponsor: SEAVEY, Marsano, Gauvreau, Brannigan  
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1775

SUMMARY: See New Draft, LD 1775.

LD 1112 AN ACT RELATING TO THE NARCOTICS LAWS PL 1987 c. 164

Sponsor: MELENDY, Cote, Allen, Hoglund  
Committee Report: OTP

SUMMARY: The bill creates presumptions that a person who possesses one ounce or more of cocaine is unlawfully trafficking in scheduled drugs and that a person who possesses 1/2 ounce or more of cocaine is unlawfully furnishing scheduled drugs.

LD 1120 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE PAYMENT OF REASONABLE ATTORNEYS FEES IN SUCCESSFUL LIBEL AND SLANDER SUITS LVWD

Sponsor: RACINE  
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This bill would have required the court to award attorneys fees and costs to any plaintiff who prevailed in an action for libel or slander.

LD 1154 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE MARKING OF BARRIERS ON CERTAIN PUBLIC WAYS PL 1987 c. 75

Sponsor: MARTIN, J., Paradis, P., Paradis, E., Brannigan  
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 51

SUMMARY: The bill requires municipalities to mark barriers placed across ways held and designated for motor vehicle passage to protect snowmobilers traveling on those ways in the winter and all-terrain vehicle operators, motorcyclists, and others traveling on those ways in other

seasons. Municipal officers must cause the barriers to be inspected periodically to assure that the marking remains. The bill makes violation of these requirements a civil violation.

LD AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE FREEDOM OF ACCESS LAW ND LD 1849  
1161

Sponsor: GAUVREAU, Paradis, P., Foster, Black  
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1849

SUMMARY: See New Draft, LD 1849.

LD AN ACT TO AMEND THE JUVENILE CODE RELATING TO ND LD 1737  
1177 THE QUESTIONING OF JUVENILES

Sponsor: HEPBURN, Matthews, Z., Rolde  
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1737

SUMMARY: See New Draft, LD 1737.

LD AN ACT TO ALLOW DRUNK DRIVERS TO BE SUED FOR LVWD  
1180 PUNITIVE DAMAGES

Sponsor: WARREN, Murphy, E.  
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: LD 1180 proposed to authorize the automatic award of punitive damages against the driver of a motor vehicle who injures a person and is found to have been operating the vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

LD AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A PROCEDURE FOR TRIAL LVWD  
1182 DE NOVO IN CERTAIN DIVORCE ACTIONS

Sponsor: MCHENRY  
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This bill would have allowed any party in a divorce action who was aggrieved by a District Court judgment in the action to obtain a new hearing in the Superior Court.