

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

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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 AN ACT TO FACILITATE THE USE OF TESTIMONY OF LVWD
1187 YOUNG VICTIMS OF SEX OFFENSES

Sponsor: ANTHONY, Thistle, Joseph
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This bill sought to allow the introduction into criminal proceedings of hearsay statements by children under the age of 14 who are alleged to be victims of sex offenses. This bill would have allowed trustworthy, out-of-court statements by children describing sexual conduct to come into evidence in the testimony of those to whom the statements were made. The bill also preserved the accused's right to cross-examine by providing the opportunity to question the child regarding the statements. Only if it was impossible for the child to testify could the child's reliable statements be admitted without any cross-examination and then only if they were not the sole evidence upon which the accused could have been convicted.

LD AN ACT TO PERFECT TITLE OF FORFEITED VEHICLES LVWD
1193

Sponsor: DAVIS, McGowan, Dow, Cahill
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: LD 1193 proposed to automatically perfect the State's title to a motor vehicle forfeited by the owner after a criminal conviction.

The provisions of this bill, with certain changes, were incorporated into LD 1415.

LD AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS REGARDING SMALL CLAIMS LVWD
1199

Sponsor: ALLEN, Baldacci, Hoglund
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: LD 1199 proposed to amend the laws governing Small Claims Court actions in several ways. It provided that the notice of a disclosure hearing may be sent to a defendant with the initial notice of the pending action. The bill also authorized Court rulemaking to determine when the disclosure hearing would be held immediately after the action is decided by the Court. If the debtor fails to appear at the hearing and a judgment is rendered against him, the debtor would be notified of the judgment against him and the Court's order by registered or certified mail.