

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Part I State Government

BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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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

LD 1402 addresses parking accommodations to provide easier access for handicapped persons to public accommodations. The bill proposes to require the designation of at least one parking space for every 25 parking spaces available to the public on a public or private parking lot.

LD 1402 also amends the statute relating to municipal ordinances that are enacted to provide for handicapped parking. The bill changes the penalty from a maximum fine of \$25 to a minimum fine of \$50 unless a municipal ordinance establishes a different penalty.

The bill applies to existing facilities, and facilities constructed in the future.

This bill was amended twice. One amendment changed the ratio of handicapped parking spaces to parking spaces available to the general public from 1 to 20 to 1 to 25. This amendment also establishes a \$50 fine for all infractions of this law and mandates that owners of private off-street parking shall arrange for enforcement by private means or public agencies. A second amendment defines clearly marked to include painted signs on pavement, vertical standing signs or barriers which are visible in existing weather conditions.

LD	AN ACT TO MAKE THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY A MAJOR	PL 1987
1407	POLICY-INFLUENCING POSITION	c. 355
		EMERGENCY

Sponsor: MACBRIDE, Priest, Branningan, Gould, R. R.
Committee Report: OTP-A
Amendments Adopted:
H-229 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: LD 1407 amends Title 5, section 948, to place the Director of Safety within the category of major policy-influencing positions within the Department of Public Safety. LD 1407 was amended to make it emergency legislation.

LD	AN ACT TO ALLOW THE GOVERNOR TO ORDER EMERGENCY	PL 1987
1446	ACTIVATION OF THE GUARD IN ADVANCE OF AN	c. 429
	IMMINENT DISASTER	

Sponsor: CARROLL, Diamond, Strout, B.
Committee Report: OTP

SUMMARY: LD 1446 enables the Governor to order emergency activation of state military forces in advance of an imminent disaster. Present law does not explicitly allow mobilization of the state military forces, such as the National Guard, to prepare for an imminent disaster. For

instance, if a hurricane is approaching and it would be prudent for the Governor to activate the National Guard to assist in the evacuation of coastal islands, under present law, the Governor, lacking creative interpretation of the law, cannot order a mobilization until "the fact that a civil emergency exists," as such that the hurricane has actually struck. Naturally, waiting until the storm has struck to evacuate persons by helicopter, etc., endangers the evacuees and the rescuers.

LD AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE CITIES AND TOWNS TO DISPLAY INDEF PP
1476 THE PRISONER-OF-WAR AND MISSING-IN-ACTION FLAGS

Sponsor: KETOVER, Clark, H., Jalbert, Pray
Committee Report: OTP (Majority)
ONTP (Minority)

SUMMARY: LD 1476 would mandate that towns and cities display the prisoner-of-war and missing-in-action flags in order to honor those soldiers who served as prisoners of war and those who never returned home.

LD AN ACT TO REASSIGN THE DUTIES OF THE OFFICE OF ONTP
1482 ENERGY RESOURCES

Sponsor: ARMSTRONG, Usher, Ludwig, Ridley
Committee Report: ONTP (Majority)
OTP-A (Minority)

SUMMARY: LD 1482 proposed to abolish the Office of Energy Resources and assign powers and duties between the State Planning Office and the State Development Office. The bill also made other changes within the duties of the State Planning Office. Specifically, the bill proposed:

- A. To increase the salary of the Director of the State Planning Office and the Commissioner of Defense and Veterans' Services from Range 89 to Range 91;
- B. To extend the scope of the responsibility and purpose of the State Planning Office to include: assistance in the development of economic, energy, fiscal and regulatory policy; management of the state's natural and physical resources; identification of issues and problems of long term significance; formulation of a biennial state energy resources plan; coordination of policies for the development of the state's energy resources, including collection of data and encouragement of research, experiments, and demonstration projects; proposing policies and recommendations in the areas of public investment and taxation, energy resources, and state regulatory policy;