

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
AGING, RETIREMENT & VETERANS
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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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 AN ACT TO CLARIFY EXISTING LAW REGARDING THE
1485 LOSS OF MILITARY PROPERTY

PL 1987
c. 208

Sponsor: PARADIS E, Perkins, Erwin E, Hickey
Committee Report: OTP

SUMMARY: As the title suggests, the bill clarifies existing law regarding destruction or sale of military property. The words "knowingly" and "recklessly" have been substituted for the words "willfully" or "maliciously" making the section compatible with Maine Criminal Code. The distinction is also made clear between criminal responsibility for "knowingly" or "recklessly" destroying property and civil responsibility for negligence.

Finally, in regard to the sale or possession of military property the word "knowing" is inserted to make the section more compatible with Maine Criminal Law. In addition, it distinguishes between the criminality of sale and new civil penalties for possessing or receiving military items.

LD AN ACT TO REPEAL THE REMOVAL OF ICE JAMS
1486 PROVISIONS FROM THE STATE CIVIL EMERGENCY PRE-
PAREDNESS LAW

PL 1987
c. 209

Sponsor: STEVENS A, Tupper, Paul
Committee Report: OTP

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Civil Emergency Preparedness does not have the expertise to clear ice jams. The director indicated that he was not aware that the expertise existed. As a result he asked that the responsibility to clear ice jams be removed from the responsibilities of his bureau.

LD AN ACT TO CLARIFY EXISTING FEDERAL COMPENSATION
1487 AND CARE AS THE PRIMARY RESOURCE TO AN INJURED
SERVICE MEMBER BEFORE SEEKING BENEFITS UNDER
THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT

PL 1987
c. 271

Sponsor: ZIRNKILTON, Richard, Paradis E, Collins
Committee Report: OTP

SUMMARY: This bill clarifies when a member of the state military forces should seek medical care, financial relief from injury and long-term disability or settlement from the state in the event of permanent injury. It establishes the following priorities for the use of services:

First, federal resources for hospital care and continuation of military pay.
Second, medical discharge and severance pay.
Third, for a permanent impairment disability and lump sum payments from the Veterans Administration.
Fourth, workers compensation should be available to make up the void or shortfall in state or federal military benefits.

LD AN ACT TO AMEND THE RETIREMENT LAW REGARDING
1492 SCHOOLS

PL 1987
c. 148

Sponsor: LOOK, Randall
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 1183

SUMMARY: The original bill would have allowed teachers who worked in private schools to purchase service time in the Maine State Retirement System at the same rate as they would have paid if they had taught in public schools. Present law allows teachers who have taught in public school for at least 10 years and who previously taught in a parochial or private school to purchase up to 10 years of service credit in the Maine State Retirement System for the years taught in the parochial or private school. The teacher pays the full actuarial equivalent of the additional years. The present law stipulates that the teacher must have started teaching before January 1, 1976 and began payment within 30 days of becoming eligible. The new draft repeals the two stipulations. Since the teacher pays the full actuarial equivalent, there is no cost to the retirement system.

LD AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE LAW REGARDING PROHIBITION
1518 OF EMPLOYMENT PENALTIES OR INTERFERENCE AGAINST
STATE MILITARY FORCE MEMBERS

PL 1987
c. 263

Sponsor: DILLENBACK, Jalbert, Begley, Erwin P,
Committee Report: OTP-A
Amendments Adopted:
S-85 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: The bill first clarifies and strengthens existing law making it a Class E crime for any person, including an employer, to deprive a member of the Maine Army and Air National Guard of employment rights or otherwise obstructs him with regard to his employment or business because of his membership in the state military forces, or to dissuade any person from enlisting in the state military forces by threat of injury to his/her occupation or business.