

# 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 II County and Local

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

This bill sets up an Aroostook County Water and Soil Management Board consisting of 9 professional members who are to receive expenses only. The purpose of the Board is to coordinate all State and local efforts with respect to implementation of the research/demonstration program proposed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Staff to the Board is to be provided by the Department of Agriculture.

The federal legislation requires matching funds from the state equal to 35% of the total cost of the project. Since the Congress has set aside \$3.4 million, this would bring the state's share in the neighborhood of \$1.5 million. This bill authorizes the expenditure by the Department of Agriculture of \$184,000 in the next two years and sets up a fund under the Commissioner to accept additional moneys. The bill indicates that it is expected that these will come from the Maine Geological Survey, the Potato Board, the University System and other state agencies. However, the bill contains no appropriations to cover such contributions by these organizations. It also has no appropriation to cover the expenses of the Board.

The Committee Amendment requires the persons appointed by the Maine Potato Board and the Aroostook County Soil and Water Conservation Districts be persons engaged in farming. It increases the number of persons on the board by two so that each Soil and Water District has a representative farmer. The amendment requires the Board to report to the Legislature at least annually on its activities and recommendations. The appropriation is deleted because it is in the Part 2 budget. An allocation is added for the federal funds expected for the project. The Board is created within the Department of Agriculture and the Commissioner shall implement the allocation of these funds to the Board.

<b>LD</b> <b>1691</b>	RESOLVE, FOR LAYING OF THE COUNTY TAXES AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES OF WASHINGTON COUNTY FOR THE YEAR 1987 AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TO RAISE UP TP \$350,000 FOR EXPENSES IN CONJUNCTION WITH JAIL CONSTRUCTION (REPORTED PURSUANT TO A JOINT ORDER; HP 23)	RESOLVE 1987 c. 32 EMERGENCY
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Sponsor:  
Committee Report: OTP

SUMMARY: This is the regular yearly resolve for the laying of taxes in Washington County. In addition it provides for an authorization to raise \$350,000 to cover expenses associated with jail renovations and construction.

In 1984 a bond issue for \$1.4 million was authorized by the Legislature and the county voters for renovation and additions to the Washington County jail. Subsequently, the lowest bid received was for \$2.1 million. Therefore in 1986 the Legislature authorized an additional \$700,000 in funding.

Construction was begun in 1986 and some \$338,000 in additional expenses were and will be incurred. Therefore, this bill authorizes borrowing the necessary funds by adding to the current bond issue. This bill requests \$350,000 for this purpose. This will raise the total authorized funding for the jail construction to \$2,450,000. There is currently an agreement with the Farmers Home Administration for 20 year bonds at a 5% rate of interest. This is the county's only bonded indebtedness and this indebtedness with interest will total \$3,932,260.

This bill also removes the requirement for local referendum.

LD RESOLVE, REQUIRING A LEGISLATIVE STUDY OF INDEF. PP  
1692 COUNTY BUDGET PROCEDURES

Sponsor: CASHMAN, Nadeau, G. G., Ingraham  
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 618

SUMMARY: The original resolve requires that the Committee on State and Local Government study the county budget procedures and make a recommendation for 1 uniform process. As this was emergency legislation, the study can begin when passed and must be reported by January 1, 1988.

This new draft would eliminate a uniform budget process for all counties as an objective of the study of county budget procedures. The new draft changes the reporting date for the study to Nov. 1, 1987 and adds a fiscal note for \$9200 to fund the study.

LD AN ACT TO GIVE THE AROOSTOOK COUNTY BUDGET PL 1987  
1721 COMMITTEE FINAL APPROVAL AUTHORITY OVER THE c. 455  
COUNTY BUDGET

Sponsor: MCHENRY, Smith, Ingraham, Collins  
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 88  
Amendments Adopted:  
H-395 CARROLL

SUMMARY: The purpose of this bill was to remove the sunset provision in the Aroostook County Budget Committee legislation.