

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LEGAL AFFAIRS
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

Sponsor: SEAVEY, Begley, Hepburn, Crowley
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 1433
Amendments Adopted:
H-217 PARADIS, P.
H-245 PRIEST

SUMMARY: The original bill would make it a Class D crime for any candidate to apply for, receive, accept or witness an absentee ballot.

The New Draft makes it a Class D crime for any candidate to deliver, receive, accept, notarize or witness an absentee ballot, other than his or her own, which is furnished by the clerk of a municipality in this State. This will allow candidates to notarize out-of-state ballots.

House Amendment "A" (H-217) (not adopted) would make it a Class D crime for anyone other than a municipal employee to deliver, receive, accept, notarize or witness an absentee ballot for any compensation.

House Amendment "B" (H-245) clarifies that the only persons who may handle absentee ballots and be paid for doing so are governmental employees in the course of their official duties (municipal clerks, Secretary of State's Office, federal post office employees, etc.) and the people who handle blank ballots before the ballots are delivered to the municipality (printers, delivery people) or the voted ballots after received by the clerk (ballot counters, people who deliver ballots to the counting location).

Sponsor: ARMSTRONG, Murphy, T.
Committee Report: OTP-A
Amendments Adopted:
H-312 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: This bill clarifies the operating authority and organizational intergration for the lottery in the Department of Finance. It further modifies specific rules as to suspension of licenses and penalties for certain sales violations.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-312) further clarifies the organizational status and the policy-making authority of the State Lottery Commission.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-356)
provides for the transition from chapter 14 to chapter 14-A.

LD AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE PRESERVATION AND CARE PL 1987
1719 OF BURIAL PLACES AND MEMORIALS FOR THE DEAD c. 326

Sponsor: ROLDE
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 761

SUMMARY: The original bill would require municipalities to maintain any burial grounds more than 100 years old. It would also prohibit the removal of gravestones, except under certain safeguards, and anyone who does so would commit a Class C crime. In addition, the offender would have to pay triple damages to the persons in charge of the burial ground.

The New Draft requires the approval of the owner of the burial ground, a lineal descendent of the deceased buried there or the municipality before repairing, maintaining or removing any part of a gravestone or monument. If one is removed, it must be kept within the confines of the burial ground or cemetery. Any person who interferes with a cemetery or burial ground, except as authorized, commits a Class D crime. It is a Class C crime to illegally possess or sell a gravestone, and the offender is liable for triple damages.

LD AN ACT CONCERNING CONTRIBUTIONS BY POLITICAL ONTP
1778 ACTION COMMITTEES

Sponsor: HANDY, Carroll, Estes, Matthews, Z.
Committee Report: New Draft of Min. Report of LD 1367

SUMMARY: This is the Minority report on LD 1367 (Maj. ONTP). The New Draft would require a candidate who receives a contribution exceeding \$250 from a political action committee to submit a report to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices within 48 hours of receipt.