

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
113TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
BUSINESS LEGISLATION

MAY 1988

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Sen. Joseph C. Brannigan
Sen. R. Peter Whitmore

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* Denotes Chair

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**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST & SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
MAY 1988**

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 for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are indicated as follows::

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

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Secretaries: Charlene Brann, Janet Jean, Earl Knox, Valarie Parlin; Research Assistant Hartley Palleschi. Finally, Secretary Laurette Knox, Legal Assistant Carolyn Chick, and Research Assistant Robert Dunn had special responsibilities in the preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

LD An Act to Require Licensure of Certain Railroad Personnel
2397 (Reported Pursuant to Public Law 1987, Chapter 5)

PUBLIC
790
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)
BALDACCI

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-645
S-453 BALDACCI

SUMMARY

The bill requires certain categories of railroad personnel to be licensed in the state of Maine. The committee amendment which replaced the bill is substantially the same as the original bill. It added an emergency, limited the licensure requirement to 4 categories of personnel. These include carman, conductor, locomotive operator and train dispatcher. The amendment also added requirements for the licensing board to report to the Business Legislation Committee and an appropriations section.

The Senate amendment delayed the effective date of the licensure requirement and penalties until December 15, 1988. Senate amendment "B" (S-453) was enacted.

LD An Act to Amend the Cosmetology Laws
2408

PUBLIC
677

SPONSOR(S)
PARADIS J
MAHANY
ALLEN
KILKELLY

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill establishes qualifications, examination and licensing of aestheticians. The purpose is to provide an avenue of special licensing for persons interested only in the skin care aspect of cosmetology.

LD An Act to Regulate the Sale of Potentially Harmful Toys for LV/WD
2436 Children

SPONSOR(S)
KERRY
GILL
RACINE
SHELTRA

COMMITTEE REPORT
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

The bill requires that all so-called "war toys" bear conspicuous warning labels and that all toys which resemble firearms bear orange fluorescent stripes on their barrels. Under the bill, the burden of such labeling and marking rests on toy manufacturers.

The sponsor withdrew the bill, and the committee supported the sponsors development of a Joint Resolution memorializing Congress 1. to gain agreement from manufacturers to place markings on look alike toys and 2. to prohibit the linking of children's programs on television with the manufacture and marketing of toys fostering violent play. (See Joint Resolution, SP 0995)

LD An Act to Establish a System of Corporate Governance to LV/WD
 2451 Protect Employees and the Public from Corporate Lawbreakers
 and to Improve Compliance with Existing Civil and Criminal
 Laws

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
CONLEY	LV/WD	
MAHANY		
GAUVREAU		
BRANNIGAN		

SUMMARY

The purpose of this bill was to protect employees and the public at large from corporate lawbreakers. The bill would have created additional civil penalties to deter corporations from violating worker health and safety and environmental laws and rules, concealing information about products or processes which may cause death or serious injury or endangering workers or the public by engaging in practices which violate government standards. The bill would have required corporations, on an annual basis, to file information with the Secretary of State relating to their worker safety, equal employment and environmental compliance records.

LD An Act to Replace the Abandoned Property Law (Reported PUBLIC
 2457 Pursuant to a Study by the Committee on Business 691
 Legislation)

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
	OTP-AM	H-551

SUMMARY

The bill revises Maine's Abandoned Property Law and replaces it with a combination of the requirements in Maine law and the national Uniform Unclaimed Property Act. The bill clarifies the procedures to be followed in dealing with unclaimed property and makes Maine law compatible with the laws of most other states in the nation. The committee amendment added a purpose section which is part of current law and made other technical changes.