MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE 114TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

JULY 1989

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1989

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 for 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 abbreviated 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 Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

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

Joint Standing Committee on Housing & Economic Development

LD 21 Resolve, to Provide for the Evaluation of Financing Available to Small Businesses for Exporting (Reported Pursuant to a Study by the Committee of Housing and Economic Development).

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

LV/WD

SUMMARY

This bill directs the Finance Authority of Maine, in consultation with the Department of Economic and Community Development and an association of exporting firms, to study the issue of low-cost export financing for small Maine businesses. The Finance Authority will report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Economic Development by January 15, 1990.

LD 22 Resolve, to Provide for the Evaluation of State
International Trade Programs with Respect to Effectiveness
and the Ability to Address International Economic Forces
(Reported Pursuant to a Study by the Housing and Economic
Development Committee).

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

LV/WD

SUMMARY

LD 22 proposed that Maine's public and private higher educational institutions work together and develop objective evaluation criteria and procedures for economic development programs. The purpose of this resolve is to develop an effective evaluation tool for determining the effectiveness of economic development programs. Most states agree that effective evaluation is necessary to make the maximum use of limited resources to produce the maximum impact in economic development including international trade.

LD 40 An Act to Assess Product and Technology Development in the State and to Reduce Barriers to Innovations in Technology and Production (Reported Pursuant to a Study Relative to Maine's Participation of International Trade & Effect of International Trade on Maine's Economy)

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

LV/WD

SUMMARY

Many states have actively promoted and developed systems for product and technology development to enhance state economies. This is particularly important with respect to the amount of research and investment in product and technology development currently occurring in many foreign nations.

LD 40 proposed that the Maine Science and Technology Commission, in consultation with the University of Maine System and state agencies, study the issues of product and technology development in Maine with specific focus on:

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis.......Page 1
Housing and Economic Development

- 1. The current status of product and technology development in Maine;
- 2. The present and potential impact of technology on the state economy;
- 3. The barriers to product and technology development;
- 4. The means of reducing or eliminating the barriers; and
- 5. The most effective role for public institutions to promote product and technology development.

LD 41 An Act to Enable Maine to Seize the Opportunities and Meet the Challenges in International Trade (Reported Pursuant to a Study Relative to Maine's Participation of International Trade on Maine's Economy & Effect of International Trade on Maine's Economy)

LV/WD

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

LD 41 proposed that:

- 1. The Department of Economic and Community Development analyze the State's economy with respect to international trade and determine the State's strengths, assets, and liabilities in regard to international trade;
- 2. The department formulate an international trade strategy based on the State's strengths and
- 3. The department evaluate all means that can best exploit international trade including creation of a foreign trade office, and the means to reduce or eliminate barriers to development of international trade;
- 4. The department coordinate international trade efforts and resources within the State to maximize the use of state resources;
- 5. The department investigate the feasibility of creating a New England regional trade council for purposes of promoting and developing international trade for the region and attracting investment to New England;
- 6. The department, in conjunction with the Department of Administration, Office of Information Systems, investigate the feasibility of the creation of an international trade data and information system to serve the public and private sectors;
- 7. The department investigate various approaches to a certification of quality program which will encourage domestic and foreign purchasers to buy goods and services produced in Maine.