

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**



**BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AFFAIRS**

JULY 1989

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Sen. Robert G. Dillenback

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Rep. Helen M. Tupper

* Denotes Chair

Staff: Todd R. Burrowes, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy & Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Sta. 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 289-1670

MARTHA E. FREEMAN, DIRECTOR
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STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL: (207) 289-1670

ANNIKA E. LANE
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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.

SPONSOR(S)
HOLLOWAY
HUTCHINS
LIBBY
BEGLEY

COMMITTEE REPORT
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill proposes to exempt any community with a population of 7500 or fewer souls from the laws regarding minimum standards for firefighting equipment and clothing.

LD 253 An Act to Change the Definition of Blood-alcohol Level

LV/WD

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PRIEST
BEGLEY
MATTHEWS
CARROLL J

COMMITTEE REPORT
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill proposes 2 major changes to the laws regarding operating a motor vehicle under the influence.

First, the bill changes the definition of "blood alcohol level" to "alcohol concentration" throughout the OUI laws to reduce the need to convert the result of a breath test into terms of a blood test.

The bill also authorizes law enforcement officers to request that a person stopped on suspicion of OUI take a preliminary breath test. The preliminary test intended is a screening device, the results of which may be used in establishing probable cause to arrest an OUI suspect and subject that person to the duty to take a full blown breath or blood test.

LD 256 An Act to Limit Spending and Contributions in Campaigns for Governor

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill, an initiated bill, is the product of Maine Common Cause. The bill creates a voluntary system of public financing of gubernatorial elections. The proposal sets an overall limit on spending, limited acceptance of contributions by candidates who accept public financing and provided matching funds, derived from an income tax checkoff, for small contributions from individuals.