

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
PART I - STATE GOVERNMENT

JULY 1989

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Sen. Donald E. Esty, Jr.
Sen. David L. Carpenter

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Rep. John S. McCormick, Jr.

* Denotes Chair

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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.

Opposition to the bill focused on the problems of scheduling a run-off and tabulating the results before the Governor could take office in January. In addition, the opponents were concerned whether municipalities had the resources and the ability to prepare for a run-off election within a short period of time following the General Election.

LD 327 An Act to Amend the Legislative Disclosure Laws

LV/WD

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
BOST CARROLL D BERUBE JOSEPH	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

LD 327 proposed to strengthen the conflict of interest and disclosure laws that apply to state legislators. The bill proposed that:

1. Legislators disclose the name of each source of income of \$300 or more and the percentage of the Legislator's total income that each source comprises;
2. Legislators disclose the names of state agencies before which the legislators represented persons or organizations during the previous 3 years;
3. The Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices formally brief State Legislators annually, no later than February 1, with respect to ethics laws;
4. A one year prohibition apply to former legislators with respect to lobbying legislators;
5. Any person who files charges against a legislator with the Ethics Commission, provide a notice of the charges and the grounds for these charges at least 7 days prior to filing them with the commission.

Some of the provisions of LD 327 were included in a Committee bill, LD 1773.

LD 335 An Act to Strengthen the Social Worker Training and Education Requirements

PUBLIC 268

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
KANY GWADOSKY HUSSEY MARSTON	OTP-AM	S-152

SUMMARY

LD 335 proposed to require any person currently employed or newly employed by the State as a social worker to successfully complete an examination on the Child Protection Act (22 MRSA C. 1071). In addition, every social worker employed by the State would be required to complete a course of training and an examination with respect to conducting investigations under the Child Protection Act. The Maine Criminal Justice Academy would prescribe the requirements of the course.

The Committee Amendment requires the Department of Human Services to develop a plan with goals and objectives of a training program to meet the specific needs of social workers and case workers based on the different responsibilities of these social workers. The department will report to the Committee on State and Local Government no later than January 3, 1990, with respect to the status and contents of the plan.

LD 344 An Act to Provide More Legislative Oversight of Agency Rulemaking ONTP

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
BALDACCI DUFFY TARDY RUHLIN	ONTP	

SUMMARY
LD 344 proposed that state agencies provide proposed agency rules along with fact sheets to the director of the legislative office which reviews proposed agency rules. The director would review each rule with respect to:

- A. Clarity;
- B. Sufficient statutory justification of the rule;
- C. Sufficient statutory standards for the rule;
- D. The extent to which and how well the proposed rules achieve the purpose for which they are proposed.

Following the review of a proposed rule, the director of the legislative office on rules would send a copy of the director's comments and recommendations to the agency proposing the rule and to each member of the committee with jurisdiction over the subject matter of the proposed rules.

The Committee agreed to consider the contents of LD 344 in conjunction with its consideration of a more comprehensive bill concerned with rulemaking.

LD 345 An Act to Amend the Composition of Senate District 8 and Senate District 15 LV/WD

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
ERWIN E TWITCHELL MILLS	LV/WD	

SUMMARY
LD 345 proposed to remove the Town of Peru from Senate District 15 and place it in Senate District 8. See comments for LD 310.