

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. John E. Baldacci
Sen. Robert G. Dillenback

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Rep. Helen M. Tupper

* 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.

LD 378 **Resolve, Granting Compensation to Oscar and Wandalyne Rae
Thompson for Damage to Their Car Caused by a Foster Child
in Their Care**

RESOLVE 57

SPONSOR(S)
DEXTER
WEBSTER C

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-245

SUMMARY

This resolve authorizes the Thompsons to sue the State for \$3,000 for economic losses stemming from the destruction of their car by a foster child entrusted to their care.

Committee Amendment "A" provides for an appropriation of \$1,999 to compensate the Thompsons for their loss.

LD 386 **An Act Concerning the Operation of Motor Vehicles on Private
Lands**

PUBLIC 289

SPONSOR(S)
MCPHERSON

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-318

SUMMARY

The bill requires one to obtain the written consent of a landowner prior to entry on that landowner's land with a motor vehicle. Violation of the requirement is civil a violation. The bill also broadens an existing statute dealing with damage due to trespass to allow one to sue a person who caused damage to roads or trails on one's land.

Committee Amendment "A" makes operation of a motor vehicle on farmland that caused damage to crops or roads on that farmland a Class E crime. The amendment provides exemptions for the landowner, the landowner's agents and employees within the scope of their employment or agency, a person with permission to operate a motor vehicle on the farmland, and a law enforcement officer responding to an emergency within the scope of that officer's employment.

LD 410 **An Act Concerning Voter Residency Requirements (BY REQUEST)**

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)
MILLS
ERWIN E

COMMITTEE REPORT
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill requires a person to establish and maintain for 3 consecutive months a residence in a municipality before becoming eligible to vote in that municipality.