

# 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. Norman R. Paul  
Rep. John Jalbert  
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Rep. Mark W. Lawrence  
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Rep. Eleanor M. Murphy  
Rep. Jeanne F. Begley  
Rep. Albert G. Stevens  
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 519** An Act to Change the Number of Rooms Required for Hotel  
Liquor Licenses

PUBLIC 139

SPONSOR(S)  
BEGLEY  
HOLLOWAY

COMMITTEE REPORT  
OTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill changes from 14 to 12 the number of sleeping rooms a hotel in a town of less than 3,000 souls must have to obtain a hotel liquor license authorizing service of liquor for consumption in guests' rooms.

**LD 534** An Act Regarding Alcohol Credit Sales

PUBLIC 140

SPONSOR(S)  
BALDACCI

COMMITTEE REPORT  
OTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill allows hotels and Class A restaurants licensed to serve alcoholic beverages to extend credit, without the use of a credit card, for alcoholic beverages served at a private, prearranged function, such as a wedding reception.

**LD 545** An Act to Clarify Election Law Procedures

PUBLIC 166

SPONSOR(S)  
MAYO

COMMITTEE REPORT  
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED  
H-122

SUMMARY

This bill makes a number of technical corrections and changes to the election laws. The bill makes several changes necessary to conform State law to federal law regarding the balloting procedures of the electoral college and absentee ballots. The bill makes the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices solely responsible for preparation and distribution of candidates reporting forms. The bill also clarifies that challenges to primary and nomination petitions must be filed by the 5th business day after the petition filing deadline.

Committee Amendment "A" clarifies that candidates seeking office as non-party candidates must not have been enrolled in a party for 3 months prior to the filing deadline for nomination petitions. The amendment creates an exception from this rule for county charter commission candidates since their's is a non-partisan office. The amendment also strikes language in the bill that would allow overseas voters voting absentee to vote for candidates for State offices by writing in the name of a political party only rather than the name of a person.