

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



**BILL SUMMARY  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
LABOR**

**JULY 1989**

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Sen. Zachary E. Matthews  
Sen. R. Peter Whitmore

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Rep. Richard P. Ruhlin  
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Rep. Jeffrey H. Butland  
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.

LD 661      An Act to Establish Occupational Health and Safety Standards  
for Operators of Video Display Terminals

PUBLIC 512

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MARTIN J	OTP-AM      MAJ	H-563      MAJ REP
RAND	ONTP      MIN	S-402      CONF COMM
RUHLIN		
TITCOMB		

SUMMARY

LD 661 proposed to regulate the use of video display terminals by employers who used 5 or more terminals throughout the State. These employers were required to provide any employee who used a terminal for more than 4 hours per day with fully adjustable work stations, detachable keyboards, copyholders, indirect lighting fixtures, glare filters, a 15-minute rest break every 2 hours, annual vision examinations and education and training regarding potential health hazards associated with VDT use. The employer was also required to provide semi-annual terminal maintenance for all VDT's.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-563) replaced the bill and required employers with 25 or more terminals statewide to provide operators (employees who used a terminal for more than 4 consecutive hours on a daily basis) with swivel chairs and height-adjustable seats or terminal tables unless declined by the operator. The employer was required to take remedial actions to reduce screen glare and if these measures proved ineffective, to provide a glare filter for the terminal screen. Operators were entitled to a 15-minute rest break every 2 hours and annual paid leave to receive vision examinations at their own expense. The employer was also required to provide education and training to operators regarding the proper use of VDT's. The amendment also added an appropriation section and fiscal note.

Committee of Conference Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-402) replaced the bill and only requires employers with 25 or more VDT's in a single location to provide education and training to VDT operators.

**LD 663**      An Act to Provide Unemployment Compensation for Teachers  
Aides and Certain Noninstructional Employees of Educational  
Institutions

LV/WD

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MITCHELL	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

LD 663 proposed to permit teachers aides and other noninstructional school employees to receive unemployment compensation during the interim between school years.