

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

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



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

**JULY 1989**

**MEMBERS**

Sen. Zachary E. Matthews \*  
Sen. John E. Baldacci  
Sen. Robert G. Dillenback

Rep. Charles R. Priest \*  
Rep. Norman R. Paul  
Rep. John Jalbert  
Rep. Jo Anne D. Lapointe  
Rep. Mark W. Lawrence  
Rep. Charles C. Plourde  
Rep. Eleanor M. Murphy  
Rep. Jeanne F. Begley  
Rep. Albert G. Stevens  
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  
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
ULIE S. JONES, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
DAVID C. ELLIOTT, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
WILBERT W. BREWER  
RODD R. BURROWES  
MIRO FLATEBO  
JEBORAH C. FRIEDMAN  
JOHN B. KNOX



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  
EDWARD POTTER  
MARGARET J. REINSCH  
LARS H. RYDELL  
JOHN R. SELSER  
HAVEN WHITESIDE  
CAROLYN J. CHICK, RES. ASST  
ROBERT W. DUNN, RES. ASST  
HARTLEY PALLESCHI, JR., RES. ASST

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)  
MCCORMICK  
BRAWN  
BALDACCI  
FLOURDE

COMMITTEE REPORT  
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill changes the date of statewide primary elections from the 2nd Tuesday in June to the 2nd Tuesday in September.

LD 965      **Resolve, Authorizing Brian Dreher of North Whitefield to  
Bring a Civil Action against the State of Maine**

SPONSOR(S)  
KILKELLY  
JALBERT  
MURPHY

COMMITTEE REPORT  
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This resolve authorizes Brian Dreher to sue the State for damages stemming from a collision of the vehicle he was driving with a Department of Transportation snowplow truck allegedly on the wrong side of the road and without warning lights or flashers indicating its disabled status.

LD 970      **An Act Regarding Political Party Enrollment**

SPONSOR(S)  
LAWRENCE  
MATTHEWS  
MURPHY  
PRIEST

COMMITTEE REPORT  
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED  
H-246  
H-347    PRIEST

SUMMARY

This bill requires individuals at the time they register to vote to inform the registrar of their membership in a political party or their unenrolled status.

Committee Amendment "A" clarifies that a person need not be enrolled in a political party to be eligible to vote.

House Amendment "A" clarifies that a person registering to vote may enroll in a party other than the Democratic or Republican Party. The amendment provides that the registrar when asking about the voter's intention regarding enrollment shall not ask if the person desires to enroll in one of these two parties.