

# 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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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)

GOULD R R  
JOSEPH  
MARSANO  
HICKEY

COMMITTEE REPORT

ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

LD 926 proposed that retiring classified state employees be authorized to run in a partisan election for a county or state office. The retiring classified state employee would be:

- A. required to submit a letter to the director of the employee's office stating his or her intent to retire and the date of retirement. The letter would be submitted within 12 months of the date of retirement;
- B. required to retire no later than December 1 following the general election, and the employee must be eligible to receive retirement benefits on the date of retirement;
- C. ineligible for future employment as a classified state employee.

The bill does not change current law concerning state employee solicitation of contributions.

The bill failed to receive committee approval because of public perception of state employees running for office in partisan elections. In addition, many committee members were concerned about the impact of the bill on the state employees (non-retirees).

**LD 956      An Act to Revise Compensation for Members of the Maine Human Rights Commission**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

BRANNIGAN  
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COMMITTEE REPORT

ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

LD 956 proposes to increase from \$25 per day to the legislative per diem rate (\$55 per day) the amount of compensation provided to members of the Human Rights Commission. Proponents argued that the substantive work of the Commission as an adjudicatory board as well as the substantial work load placed on commission members.

The bill failed to obtain committee approval because of the absence of standards by which per diem is established for different types of boards.

The Human Rights Commission is one of 34 boards within the "General Government" category. Of the 34 boards, 27 boards are paid \$25 or no per diem whatsoever. A total of 6 boards are paid the Legislative per diem rate.