

# 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  
GILBERT W. BREWER  
GODD R. BURROWES  
MICHAEL 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.

LD 1103      An Act to Strengthen the Law Pertaining to Taking or  
Defacing Political Campaign Signs

PUBLIC 315

SPONSOR(S)

NORTON  
DILLENBACK  
JACKSON  
BAILEY

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-262

SUMMARY

This bill makes taking, destroying or defacing a political sign without authorization a Class E crime.

Committee Amendment "A" makes the conduct proscribed by the bill a civil violation for which a forfeiture of up to \$250 may be adjudged. The amendment specifies that a landowner on whose property a sign was placed or such landowner's agent and a person authorized to remove political signs by the appropriate candidate are not subject to penalty.

LD 1106      An Act to Allow Municipal Clerks to Inspect Sample Ballots  
before Election Day

PUBLIC 558

SPONSOR(S)

MANNING  
PRIEST  
BALDACCI  
MATTHEWS

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-398  
S-420    PEARSON

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes a municipal clerk, in the presence of 2 witnesses, to inspect ballots within 10 days prior to an election and report any discrepancies to the Secretary of State.

Committee Amendment "A" requires the Secretary of State to affix to each box or package of ballots shipped to a voting place a sample of each type of ballot packed inside that box or package. The amendment requires municipal clerks to inspect these samples on receipt of the parcel and to report any discrepancies between a sample ballot and the corresponding specimen ballot to the Secretary of State. The amendment prescribes the form of a sample ballot.

**LD 1109**      An Act to Provide for Forfeiture of Altered Radar Detectors  
and to Make Possession a Civil Violation

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)

KETOVER  
JALBERT  
RICHARD

COMMITTEE REPORT

LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill makes possession of a radar detector with its manufacturer's serial number or other distinguishing identification mark removed or disfigured a civil violation for which a forfeiture of up to \$200 may be adjudged. The bill declares a radar detector altered in this manner contraband which the State may seize.