

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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* 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 1122 **An Act to Encourage Higher Voter Participation in All
Elections by Allowing Absentee Balloting With or Without
Cause**

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)

JOSEPH
MATTHEWS
ALLEN
COTE

COMMITTEE REPORT

LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill allows a voter to cast an absentee ballot at any time within 30 days prior to an election either in person or by mail.

**LD 1126 An Act to Enhance Enforcement of the Driving Under the
Influence of Alcohol and Drug Laws**

SPONSOR(S)

PARADIS P
MAYO
PRIEST
MATTHEWS

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill implements recommendations of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Planning Committee contained in a report, "THE OFFENSE OF DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS", printed in November 1988, in response to Resolve 1987, chapter 21.

Modeled after a Los Angeles Police Department program, the bill prescribes procedures for determining whether a person stopped for operating under the influence but found to have a low blood alcohol level is in fact impaired by another drug.

The bill expands motorists' implied consent duty to include the duty to submit to a chemical test for drugs other than alcohol. The bill directs the Department of Human Services to develop safe and reliable testing procedures which ensure respect of individuals' right of privacy. The bill appropriates funds to the department to cover the costs of chemical tests for drugs other than alcohol.

The bill provides that this drug testing program will begin as a pilot project with drug recognition experts hired and trained and operating to carry out the bill's provisions in Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Kennebec and Penobscot counties.

LD 1138 An Act to Amend the Lottery Laws

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)

DILLENBACK
TUPPER
STEVENS A
JALBERT

COMMITTEE REPORT

LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill clarifies that the State Lottery Commission may suspend and revoke a license to sell lottery tickets after notice and hearing but that that agency need not follow Administrative Procedure Act licensing procedures in conducting that hearing.