

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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* 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 1306 An Act to Permit Private Educational Institutions of Higher Learning to Make Purchases through the State Purchasing Agent

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

MANNING
HOBBINS
ROLDE
CLARK N

ONTP

SUMMARY

LD 1306 proposed that all institutions of higher education located in Maine be authorized to make purchases through the State. Currently, only the University of Maine System has this authority which it has rarely used.

The bill failed committee approval partly because of the appropriation that would be required, roughly \$53,500 over the biennium. In addition, many educational institutions have their own purchasing departments that purchase in quantities.

LD 1338 An Act to Improve Public Access to Public Hearing Records of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Board of Environmental Protection

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

TOWNSEND

ONTP

SUMMARY

LD 1338 proposed that the DEP, within 24 hours following a hearing of the DEP or the Board, transcribe the hearing on computer disks which would be made available to the public at cost.

The bill failed Committee approval partly because the bill applied only to the Department of Environmental Protection. In addition, many agencies contract with private firms for records of testimony and transcriptions. Copies of transcriptions can be secured from these firms. The State has inadequate capability of reproducing tapes of meetings.

LD 1377 An Act to Regulate Child Support Enforcement by the Department of Human Services

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

BALDACCI
DUFFY

ONTP

SUMMARY

LD 1377 proposed:

- A. To reduce from 6 years to 5 years, the period for which a parent is obligated for payment of past child support;
- B. To create the Office of Child Support Intermediary Services within the Executive Department to be autonomous from other state agencies;
- C. That the office director be appointed by the Governor, subject to review by the Legislative Committee on Human Resources and to confirmation by the Senate.

The bill failed to give the director of the office the necessary authority to implement the provisions of the bill. Other bills dealing with children were before the committee, and LD 1377 could be incorporated into a bill selected by the committee. In addition, the biennial appropriation required would have been roughly \$550,000.

**LD 1394 An Act Making Changes to the Composition of the Governor's
Advisory Council on Alcoholism**

PUBLIC 330

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
BUSTIN	OTP-AM	S-180
MATTHEWS		S-200 BUSTIN
ROLDE		
MAYO		

SUMMARY

LD 1394 proposed that the 5 executive directors of the regional alcohol and drug abuse councils be included as members of the Maine Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment.

The Committee Amendment removed the ceiling figure of 5 executive directors and authorized the executive directors to appoint designees to represent them on the Council. Senate Amendment "A" increased the number of council members from 25 to 30.

LD 1404 An Act to Expand State Agency Access to Applicant Lists

LV/WD

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
WHITCOMB	LV/WD	
WENTWORTH		
LARRIVEE		

SUMMARY

LD 1404 proposed that when state agencies hire classified employees through the use of registers of eligible applicants the hiring agency will receive the entire list of applicants and not a list limited to 6 names.

The bill failed to receive Committee approval for several reasons. For some job classifications, an entire list of applicants could include hundreds of names. The bureau of Human Resources is in the process of decentralizing hiring for many agencies and allowing many agencies to use direct hire procedures.

LD 1412 Resolve, Concerning Grant of Easement

RESOLVE 34

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
BUSTIN	OTP-AM	S-181
FARNSWORTH		

SUMMARY

LD 1412 proposed that the State Bureau of Public Improvements grant an easement to the Hallowell Water District. The easement would be 50 feet wide by 926 feet long. The purpose of the easement is to allow the Water District to install an 8 inch water main to land owned by Maurice G. Blais.