

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



**BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR**

JULY 1989

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Sen. Zachary E. Matthews
Sen. R. Peter Whitmore

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Rep. Tony J. Tamaro
Rep. Richard P. Ruhlin
Rep. Anne M. Rand
Rep. M. Ida Luther
Rep. Elden McKeen
Rep. Edward L. Pineau
Rep. Gary W. Reed
Rep. Jeffrey H. Butland
Rep. John S. McCormick, Jr.

* 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.

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MARTIN J	OTP-AM MAJ	H-439 MAJ REP
ESTY	ONTP MIN	H-540 MCHENRY
CASHMAN		
BOUTILIER		

SUMMARY

LD 1285 proposed to replace the general rule of construction found in the Workers' Compensation Act and also authorized the Workers' Compensation Commission's Appellate Division to hear appeals filed by either party on factual decisions of an individual commissioner if the decision would result in "manifest error or injustice."

Committee Amendment "A" (H-439) deleted the provisions related to the change in the rule of construction; added a sunset of June 30, 1991, on the new "manifest error or injustice" provision; required the Workers' Compensation Commission to report back to the Labor Committee regarding the effects of the LD; and added a fiscal note.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-540) added an application section providing that the LD will apply only to decisions of a single commissioner issued on or after the bill's effective date.

LD 1388 An Act to Improve Retraining Opportunities for Maine Workers

PUBLIC 408

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MARTIN J	OTP-AM	H-567
PINEAU		
DUTREMBLE D		
ESTY		

SUMMARY

LD 1388 proposed to expand eligibility for extended unemployment benefits as a dislocated worker; repealed the sunset on the dislocated worker program; established standards for contracts under the state job training program; and required trainees to receive education on various labor laws.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-567) replaces the expansion of the dislocated worker program with provisions authorizing additional payments for living expenses to persons enrolled in the STAR program; redrafts the job training contract standards and labor law education provisions and adds a fiscal note.

**LD 1406 An Act Relating to Compensation for Hearing Losses Under the
Workers' Compensation Act**

VETOED

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
PRIEST	OTP-AM	H-550
MCHENRY		
CONLEY		
RAND		

SUMMARY

LD 1406 proposed to completely overhaul the current hearing-loss provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act.