

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



**BILL SUMMARY  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
JUDICIARY  
JULY 1989**

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Sen. N. Paul Gauvreau  
Sen. Muriel D. Holloway

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Rep. Dana C. Hanley  
Rep. Peter G. Hastings  
Rep. John H. Richards

\* Denotes Chair

Staff: Margaret J. Reinsch, Legislative Analyst

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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 1573     An Act to Allow Corporations to Appear without Legal Counsel  
for Minor Civil Infractions

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)  
PARADIS E  
PERKINS  
COLLINS  
ALLEN

COMMITTEE REPORT  
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

The bill would allow corporations to appear in court without legal counsel for minor infractions having a maximum forfeiture of up to \$500.

LD 1578     An Act Concerning School Social Workers

PUBLIC 396

SPONSOR(S)  
HIGGINS

COMMITTEE REPORT  
OTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

The bill extends the privilege of confidentiality to school social workers.

LD 1607     An Act Concerning Substance Abuse Treatment for Probationers

PUBLIC 417

SPONSOR(S)  
RICHARDS  
SEAVEY  
HOLLOWAY  
HOBBINS

COMMITTEE REPORT  
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED  
H-513

SUMMARY

The bill would specifically provide that a condition of probation may be participation in a substance abuse treatment program, and that non-identifying statistics could be collected and released by the Department of Corrections.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-513) retitled the bill and replaced the text of the bill. It requires the Director of the Division of Probation and Parole to collect probation treatment statistics and make the information available.

**LD 1611**     An Act to Eliminate Unnecessary Hearings by District Court  
Judges and Superior Court Justices

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)  
MAHANY  
CONLEY  
HOLLOWAY

COMMITTEE REPORT  
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

The bill would provide that a hearing is not required when a divorce is uncontested or when the parties to a divorce have agreed to a settlement.