

# 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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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.

SPONSOR(S)  
SHELTRA

COMMITTEE REPORT  
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

LD 1610 proposed that no more than 3 members of the Real Estate Commission be members of the same political party and that the 2 remaining members shall be from a major political party.

The bill failed to obtain committee approval because there was no basis for "singling out" one commission for membership revision based on political party affiliation.

**LD 1626** Resolve, Concerning the Development of a New Master Plan for the Capitol Area

NOT SIGNED AS OF 7-25-89

SPONSOR(S)  
MARTIN J  
PRAY  
WEBSTER M  
CAHILL P

COMMITTEE REPORT  
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED  
H-551  
S-433 PEARSON

SUMMARY

LD 1626 proposed to create the Commission on the New Capitol Area Master Plan composed of 21 members from the Legislature, the Judicial branch, the Executive branch, the City of Augusta, and the State Capitol Commission. The commission would:

- A. oversee the selection of a master planner
- B. participate in the development of the plan
- C. report to the Second Regular Session of the 114th Legislature with the master plan and any necessary implementing legislation.

LD 1626 also proposed to establish a 180-day moratorium on the sale or transfer of land and on construction in the Capitol Area following approval of the Resolve.

The Committee Amendment removed the 180 day moratorium and significantly revised the composition of the Commission. The Commission was changed to an ad-hoc committee, composed of 29 members, and included greater representation from the Augusta area, the Capitol Planning Commission, and the State Capitol Commission (named changed to State House and Capitol Park Commission). The ad-hoc committee would engage a master planner for the development of a new master plan for the capitol district. The ad-hoc committee would issue findings and recommendations to the Capitol Planning Commission and issue reports to the Governor and Legislative Council.

The Senate Amendment changed the ad-hoc committee to a 23 member special committee. The special committee is required to issue a progress report no later than January 1, 1990, and a preliminary report no later than April 1, 1990, to include a complete conceptual design for the master plan. A final report, including a detailed design of the master plan is required by January 15, 1991.

The Senate Amendment also prohibits any state agency from selling, granting, leasing, or transferring title of state owned land in Augusta or constructing any facility or establishing a public way within Augusta until a new master plan has been adopted. This amendment also provides for the purchase of 2 parcels of land currently owned by a development corporation and an attorney.

**LD 1635      An Act to Reduce the Number of Full-time Legislative Staff Employees      DIED BETWEEN HOUSES**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
HANLEY	ONTP            MAJ	
WEBSTER C	OTP-AM        MIN	
MCCORMICK		
HEPBURN		

SUMMARY

LD 1635 proposed to place a ceiling on the number of full-time non-partisan legislative staff at 100 employees. No full-time non-partisan employees would be dismissed. Reduction in the number of these employees to the proposed level would occur through attrition. No new people could be hired unless the number of full-time staff fell below 100 people. Currently, there are 94 full-time non-partisan staff positions.

The Committee Amendment provided a moratorium on the creation of all new legislative staff positions, partisan and non partisan positions.

**LD 1639      An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Ethics in Government      LV/WD**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MARTIN J	LV/WD	
GAUVREAU		
SIMPSON		

SUMMARY

LD 1639 proposed to strengthen conflict of interest provisions governing State Legislators. The bill:

1. proposed to reduce from 7 members to 3 members, the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices;
2. changed the appointment process of the members to the Governmental Ethics Commission;
3. allows a Legislator, without compensation, to represent a citizen before a state agency in contrast to current law which restricts representation to constituents of Legislators;
4. establishes a \$500 ceiling on all honoraria;
5. prohibited former Legislators from lobbying for 1 full year following the Legislator's departure from office.
6. required the disclosure of the name and address of each source of income of more than \$500 to a Legislator, an executive employee and the spouse and dependent children of a Legislator or executive employee;