

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
114TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

JUNE 1990

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**One Hundred and Fourteenth Legislature  
Second Regular Session**

**Joint Standing Committee  
Bill Summaries**

**June 1990**

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. Committee Reports and Floor Action are abbreviated as follows:

OTP  
OTP-ND  
OTP-ND-NT  
OTP-A  
ONTP  
LVWD  
INDEF PP

Ought to Pass  
Ought to Pass in New Draft  
Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title  
Ought to Pass as Amended  
Ought Not to Pass  
Leave to Withdraw  
Indefinitely Postponed

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond, 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 1976**      **An Act to Codify the Creation of the Bureau of Safety and  
Change Its Name to the Bureau of Highway Safety**

**PUBLIC 648**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
BAILEY	OTP	
PARADIS P		
COLLINS		
HUSSEY		

**SUMMARY**

LD 1976 establishes the Bureau of Highway Safety within the Department of Public Safety. The Bureau is responsible for administering the State's highway safety program and is authorized to collect data on highway safety programs and to assist other state and local agencies on highway safety programs.

**LD 2005**      **An Act to Unencumber Funds for the Piscataquis County Jail**

**ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
MERRILL	ONTP	
GOULD R A		
HUSSEY		
PRAY		

**SUMMARY**

LD 2005 proposed to allow Piscataquis County to use all of the funds in the County Correctional Account for the general support of state prisoners who serve their sentences in the Piscataquis County Jail.

**LD 2044**      **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine to Provide Property Tax Relief for Marine-related  
Industries**

**ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
HOLLOWAY	ONTP	
MAYO		
FOSTER		
SWAZEY		

**SUMMARY**

LD 2044 proposed to amend the Constitution of Maine to authorize the Legislature to allow the current use valuation of waterfront property used exclusively for marine-related industries. The Maine Constitution allows current use valuation of farm and agricultural lands, timberlands and woodlands, recreational open space and lands used for game management or wildlife sanctuary.

Although the Committee supported the concept of property tax relief for commercial fishermen, several substantive taxation issues prevented the Committee from reaching consensus on LD 2044. These included:

1. A concern that the definition of the type of property affected by the bill was too broad, and that a more closely written definition was needed;
2. A concern that the impact of the bill on the local property tax bases of coastal Maine communities was essentially unknown. The Committee felt that those costs could be substantial and that they should be estimated beforehand; and