

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	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 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.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-493) to LD 2071 corrected the property description of the lands to be exchanged, based upon new surveys.

LD 2143 An Act to Allow Kineo Township to Organize LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WEBSTER C	LV/WD	,
GOULD R A		

SUMMARY

LD 2143 proposed to authorize the organization of Kineo Township as the Town of Kineo, contingent upon a referendum vote of the township residents.

LD 2154	An Act Shifting Financial Responsibility for County District	LV/WD
	Attorney Offices to the State	

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
CONLEY	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

LD 2154 proposed that the State pay the counties' costs of operating district attorneys' offices. The LD did not propose to transfer those offices and personnel state jurisdiction, but only provided for state reimbursement of county district attorney expenditures.

LD 2173	An Act to Permit the Sale of Consumer Education Materials by	PUBLIC 653
	the Attorney General	

SPONSOR(S)COMMITTEE REPORTAMENDMENTS ADOPTEDRYDELLOTPGURNEYCLARK N

SUMMARY

LD 2173 clarified that existing statutes do not prevent the Consumer Fraud Division of the Office of the Attorney General from charging fees for the production and distribution of consumer education materials.

LD 2179 An Act to Help Fund County Government (Reported Pursuant to INDEF PP a Study Authorized by the Legislative Council)

> SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED 0TP-AM

SUMMARY

LD 2179 was a minority report of the county government reform study subcommittee and proposed to distribute the full amount of the jail surcharge to the counties and increase the county share of the transfer tax to 55%.

Committee Amendment "A" replaced the LD and added to the LD all those portions of LD 2215 that had a fiscal impact. The amended LD included the following reforms, to be phased in over a 4-year period beginning on July 1, 1991:

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis State and Local Government 1. Required the Judicial Department to pay rent for the Superior Court courtrooms and clerks' offices;

2. Required the Attorney General to reimburse counties for operating expenses of the district attorneys' offices;

- 3. Required the State to reimburse counties for the costs of operating county jails; and
- 4. Increased the county share of the real estate transfer tax to 55%.

The amendment also retained the study of regional emergency management plans but deleted the proposed study of the government of the unorganized territory.

LD 2200 An Act Regarding Investment of State Funds in Corporations MAJ (OTP-AM) Doing Business in Northern Ireland

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTE	EREPORT	AMENI	DMENTS ADOPTED
CASHMAN	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-1006	MAJ REP
MARTIN J	OTP-AM	MIN	H-1031	CONLEY
PEARSON				
MCGOWAN				

SUMMARY

LD 2200 originally required that the Maine State Retirement System withdraw all retirement trust funds invested in corporations doing business in Northern Ireland which have not adopted the MacBride Principles.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1006) to LD 2200, the Committee's majority report, clarified the bill by stating explicitly that the divestiture provision applied only to domestic corporations. The amendment also exempted commingled investment trust funds from the divestiture provision and amended the MacBride Principles set forth in the original bill by striking the reference to "minority" employees in that section of the Principles that requires adequate security at the workplace.

House Amendment "A" (H-1031) to Committee Amendment "A" was a technical amendment to the bill, inserting a word that was inadvertently ommitted from the Committee amendment.

LD 2215	An Act to Reform County Government (Reported Pursuant to a	INDEF PP
	Study Authorized by the Legislative Council)	

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
	OTP-AM A	
	OTP-AM B	
	OTP-AM C	

SUMMARY

LD 2215 was the unanimous report of the county government reform study subcommittee and proposed to comprehensively reform county government by requiring the appointment of a county administrator, replacing the register of deeds and the county treasurer with appointed personnel, establishing county budget autonomy under a uniform budget committee process and providing financial assistance to the counties.

Committee Amendment "A" proposed minor reforms to county government, including the correction of certain technical drafting errors in Title 30-A, requiring all counties to have 3 commissioners, requiring the