

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

**STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

AUGUST 1991

MEMBERS:

**Sen. Joseph C. Brannigan
Sen. Dennis L. Dutremble
Sen. Pamela L. Cahill*

**Rep. Rita B. Melendy
Rep. Marge L. Kilkelly
Rep. Wilfred J. Bell
Rep. Nason S. Graham
Rep. Conrad Heeschen
Rep. Charles Plourde
Rep. Carol A. Kontos
Rep. Catharine Koch Lebowitz
Rep. Madeline Stevenson
Rep. Deale B. Salisbury*

Staff:

Michael D. Higgins, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Station 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 289-1670*

**Denotes Chair*

MARTHA E. FREEMAN, DIRECTOR
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR., PRINCIPAL ANALYST
ULIE S. JONES, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
DAVID C. ELLIOTT, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
RON CLARK
RYAN M. DYTTER
BRO FLATEBO
DEBORAH C. FRIEDMAN
MICHAEL D. HIGGINS
KANE ORBETON



KAREN L. HRUBY
JILL IPPOLITI
JOHN B. KNOX
PATRICK NORTON
MARGARET J. REINSCH
PAUL J. SAUCIER
HAVEN WHITESIDE
MILA M. DWELLEY, RES. ASST.
ROY W. LENARDSON, RES. ASST.
BRET A. PRESTON, RES. ASST.

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1991**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H - 584 or S - 222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
P&S XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
RESOLVE XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
CON RES XXX	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
EMERGENCY	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
CARRIED OVER	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
ONTP	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
LVWD	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
INDEF PP	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
VETO SUSTAINED	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
UNSIGNED	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	<i>Action incomplete when 1st session ended</i>

These summaries were 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.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development

LD 297 An Act to Promote Affordable Housing and Comprehensive Planning LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MITCHELL J CLARK N	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

This bill would have required mobile homes and mobile home parks to be subject to the same municipal regulations and requirements as single-family dwellings and developments of single-family dwellings. Among other things, the bill would have deleted some existing provisions that provide certain protections to manufactured housing.

LD 425 An Act to Require Local Development Corporations to Hold Open Meetings ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
BUSTIN MELENDY	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have prohibited local development corporations from receiving public funds unless their board meetings and meeting records concerning the expenditure of public funds are open to the public.

LD 455 An Act to Repeal the Job Opportunity Zones Act ONTP-MAJ REP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
GRAHAM ADAMS CARROLL D	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill would have repealed the Job Opportunity Zones Act.

LD 531 An Act Concerning Energy Efficiency Standards for Subsidized Housing PUBLIC 275

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
COLLINS ANDERSON BELL BERUBE	OTP-AM	S-151

SUMMARY

The original bill prohibited the installation of electric space heating equipment as the primary space heating system in any residential building constructed or renovated using public funds, or that is constructed or renovated for the use of any person who may be eligible to receive any public fuel assistance subsidy. The bill permitted the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development to grant a waiver from the prohibition in three separate circumstances: if the electrically

heated residential building is constructed to meet minimum energy efficiency standards established in the bill; if the Commissioner determines that no other type of heating system is economically feasible; or if primary electric heat is medically necessary for the health of the occupants.

Committee Amendment (S-151) added a definition of "remodeling" and deleted the medical necessity waiver. The amendment deleted the provision prohibiting installation of electric heat in a building intended for occupancy by a person who may be eligible for public fuel assistance and made clear that this section applies only to residential housing with two or more dwelling units. The amendment adjusted several residential energy standards and added an insulated exterior door requirement. It added a requirement that the Commissioner adopt rules establishing infiltration and ventilation standards and added a provision requiring agencies, municipalities or granting authorities that provide housing subsidies to notify the Department that applicants for assistance have complied with this law. The amendment also increased the penalty provision and added a fiscal note.

**LD 872 An Act to Amend the Maine Housing Authorities Act and the
Affordable Housing Partnership Act of 1989**

PUBLIC 574

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MITCHELL E LEBOWITZ BRANNIGAN SALISBURY	OTP-AM	H-96

SUMMARY

The original bill did the following:

1. Clarified the payment of expenses incurred by a state employee who serves as an ex officio commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority;
2. Increased the bonding authority of the Maine State Housing Authority that is backed by the moral obligation of the State; and
3. Clarified that funds in the Land Acquisition Program may be used to finance the reasonable costs associated with the acquisition of land for affordable housing.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-96) changed the definition of "mortgage loan" by striking the restriction to first liens and made clear that a loan may be used to cover the cost of acquiring single-family or multi-unit residential housing. The amendment also added a fiscal note.

**LD 1214 An Act to Clarify the Duties of the Legal Staff of the Maine
State Housing Authority**

LV/WD

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

SUMMARY

This bill sought to clarify and limit the duties of the general counsel of the Maine State Housing Authority to the general legal duties of a general counsel in order to avoid conflicts of interest, which may arise if the general counsel were to act in other capacities or hold other positions within the authority.