

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

AUGUST 1991

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**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.

LD 766 Resolve, to Rename Pickle Island to Woodie Wheaton Island RESOLVE 2

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
LUDWIG BAILEY H	OTP	

SUMMARY

This resolve renamed Pickle Island, on Spednic Lake, Woodie Wheaton Island in recognition of Woodie Wheaton, a widely known Maine guide and an avid outdoorsman.

LD 767 An Act to Clarify the Voting Requirements for a Board ONTP
Containing 3 or More Members

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
GAUVREAU KETTERER PARADIS P	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This law would have set the number of votes needed to legally act as the majority of a quorum of the entire board, when a board or agency has 3 or more persons and the law or ordinance establishing the board does not specifically state the necessary votes needed for legal action. The bill is identical to LD 657, which was granted leave to withdraw.

LD 772 An Act Relating to the Knox County Budget Process PUBLIC 257
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
BRAWN SAVAGE	OTP-AM	S-116

SUMMARY

This bill established the Knox County Budget Advisory Committee.

Committee Amendment "A" replaced the original language of the bill and adopted a budget committee format similar to that of Aroostook County. It also provided for staggered terms for the budget committee membership and defined the districts from which the initial budget committee members are elected.

LD 775 An Act to Improve the Disbursement of Wages to Municipal PUBLIC 271
Employees

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
HEESCHEN ST. ONGE LOOK BRAWN	OTP-AM	H-299

SUMMARY

This bill permitted municipal officers to adopt a written policy authorizing the payment of money owed to employees on the signature of just one of the municipal officers.

Committee Amendment "A" replaced the bill to give primary emphasis to the option given to the municipal authorities to adopt a policy to permit disbursements of wages and benefits to employees when a warrant contains the signatures of one or more designated municipal officers. This amendment added the requirement that the municipal officers file this policy with the town clerk and the municipal treasurers and that the policy be renewed annually by vote of the municipal officers.

LD 785 An Act to Clarify the Laws Relating to the Election or Appointment of Assessors

**PUBLIC 270
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)
LARRIVEE
WENTWORTH
GOODRIDGE

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-297

SUMMARY

This bill changed current law by allowing the selectmen to fill a vacancy on a Board of Assessors by appointment rather than having to call for an election.

Committee Amendment "A" added an emergency preamble and an emergency clause to the bill, making it effective when approved. It also added language to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A and Title 36 that permitted a selectman who is an assessor because the municipality does not separately elect assessors and the selectman became an assessor by default, to resign that position without resigning the office of selectman. The vacancy in the assessor position is then filled by appointment.

LD 797 An Act to Regulate Conflict of Interest within the Maine Science and Technology Commission

**PUBLIC 219
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)
HOLLOWAY
HEINO
BUSTIN
BRANNIGAN

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill exempted members of the Maine Science and Technology Commission and advisory boards to the commission and to the Centers for Innovation are not bound by some laws concerning conflicts of interest when making recommendations or decisions on research and development contracts, agreements or grants with educational institutions, nonprofit institutions and organizations, business enterprises and other persons concerned with scientific and technological research and development in the State, including any state or federal agency.