

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
LEGAL AFFAIRS**

AUGUST 1991

Staff:

Deborah C. Friedman, Legislative Analyst

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

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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.

SPONSOR(S)
OTT

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have required voters to present proof of their identity and proof of residence at the address shown on the voting list before they may vote and would have required the registrar of voters to remove from the voting list the name of any person who has not voted in the past 5 years.

Instead of recommending passage of the bill, the committee asked the Secretary of State's office to send a letter to registrars asking them to emphasize to registering voters the penalties for false registration or voting.

An Act to Require Interest on Tenant Security Deposits and to Provide Funds for Affordable Housing

SPONSOR(S)
NADEAU
LAWRENCE
MITCHELL E
CLEVELAND

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP MAJ
OTP-AM MIN

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

The bill would have required landlords to put tenants' security deposits into interest-bearing accounts and would have required the financial institutions holding the accounts to pay over the interest to the Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund. The Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund, managed by the Maine State Housing Authority, is used to promote affordable housing.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-150), part of the minority committee report, would have clarified that only landlords have access to the account in which the security deposit is held. The amendment also provided that the landlord has the choice at the beginning of the tenancy whether to have the interest paid to the Maine State Housing Authority during the term of the tenancy or to have the interest paid to the tenant at the termination of the tenancy.

An Act to Amend the Campaign Finance Reporting Laws

SPONSOR(S)
LAWRENCE
MILLS
STEVENS A

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-489

SUMMARY

This bill would have made the campaign finance reporting law applicable to political action committees organized outside Maine as well as to those organized in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-489) would have exempted political action committees organized outside Maine from the contribution reporting requirement for contributions of \$100 or less made by contributors outside Maine.