

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
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

AUGUST 1991

Staff:

Karen L. Hruby, Legislative Analyst

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

MEMBERS:

**Sen. Georgette B. Berube
Sen. Beverly Miner Bustin
Sen. Jerome A. Emerson*

**Rep. Ruth Joseph
Rep. Conrad Heeschen
Rep. Anne M. Larrivee
Rep. Glenith C. Gray
Rep. George J. Kerr
Rep. Merton C. Waterman
Rep. Marge Kilkelly
Rep. Theone F. Look
Rep. Lawrence F. Nash
Rep. Elmer N. Savage*

**Denotes Chair*

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



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

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.

**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 808

An Act to Provide Information to Persons Voting on Bonded Indebtedness Proposals

PUBLIC 269

SPONSOR(S)
ANTHONY
BERUBE
LOOK
WATERMAN

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-298

SUMMARY

This bill mandated that municipal bond referenda have the same financial disclosure requirements as state bond referenda.

Committee Amendment "A" added the same requirements for the counties.

LD 821

An Act to Regulate the Disposition of State Surplus Property

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
RICHARDS
BERUBE
EMERSON

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have required the Commissioner of Administration promulgate rules controlling the disposition of surplus state property. The committee sent a letter to the Acting Commissioner asking that rules be promulgated and presented to the committee by January 15, 1992.

LD 825

An Act to Clarify the Definition of State Employee in the State Employee Labor Relations Laws

CARRIED OVER

SPONSOR(S)
JOSEPH
BUSTIN

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have clarified the procedure that a public employer must take in order to exempt a new position from the definition of "state employee" under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, chapter 9-B. This bill permitted the State to file a petition for unit clarification after the new position is established to avoid any delay in filling new positions.

LD 887

An Act to Strengthen Municipal Borrowing Alternatives

PUBLIC 605

SPONSOR(S)
PRAY
KANY
CLARK H
MICHAUD

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-299
S-444 BRANNIGAN

SUMMARY

This bill directed the Maine Municipal Bond Bank to establish new methods for providing assistance to

governmental entities in obtaining necessary capital funds. The methods of assistance allowed governmental entities to:

1. Tap new markets for long-term financing;
2. Provide benefits of scale to reduce costs and allow access to sources of funds in municipal borrowing; and
3. Provide new forms of credit enhancement to reduce interest rates and related costs and charges associated with governmental borrowing for environmental infrastructure, schools, roads and other major capital cost items.

Specifically, the bill made the necessary changes in the Maine Municipal Bond Bank laws to enable the bank to operate:

1. A revolving loan fund for clean drinking water;
2. A municipal bond insurance program for credit enhancement of debt issue by governmental entities; and
3. A municipal lease financing program to assist municipalities in obtaining lower cost lease financing for major items that may be prudent to lease rather than purchase, including but not limited to computer systems, portable classrooms or telephone systems.

Committee Amendment "A" made changes in the water revolving loan fund proposed in the original bill. The term "water utility" replaced "municipality" throughout the amendment so that private water utilities were also eligible to borrow from the fund. The name of the fund was changed to the "safe drinking water revolving loan fund" and the bank was authorized to accept money from the Maine Public Utilities Financing Bank. The amendment added a provision that permits the bank to accept agreements or instruments other than municipal bonds when determining whether to loan funds to a municipality, an explanation in the appropriation section of the bill and a fiscal note.

LD 898 An Act to Provide Funds for the Purchase of a Fire Truck ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
DAGGETT BUSTIN PARADIS P	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have appropriated state funds for a fire truck for the City of Augusta. A committee compromise on LD 594 addressed the more general issue of whether the state should assume some of the City of Augusta's costs.