

# 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  
LABOR**

**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:

<b>PUBLIC XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<b>P&amp;S XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<b>RESOLVE XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<b>CON RES XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<b>CARRIED OVER</b>	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
<b>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</b>	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<b>ONTP</b>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<b>LVWD</b>	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
<b>INDEF PP</b>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<b>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</b>	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<b>VETO SUSTAINED</b>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<b>UNSIGNED</b>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<b>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</b>	<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)	COMMITTEE REPORT		AMENDMENTS ADOPTED	
PINEAU	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-593	MAJ REP
ESTY	OTP-AM	MIN	S-347	ESTY
LUTHER				
MCHENRY				

**SUMMARY**

LD 905 removed the total immunity under the workers' compensation laws granted to employers who illegally employed minors. The bill also increased penalties for violations of the child labor law.

LD 905 was used as a vehicle for an omnibus revision of the child labor laws.

The majority report, Committee Amendment "A" (H-593), replaced the original bill and amended the child labor laws and the Workers' Compensation Act in the following ways:

1. Increased the student minimum wage from 75% to 85% of the minimum wage;
2. Revised the requirements regarding permitted work hours for minors and limited the hours that minors under 18 years of age may be employed both when school is in session and when school is not in session;
3. Revised the requirements for the issuance of work permits for all minors under 17 years of age who have not been granted certain exceptions to compulsory education. If school is in session or the minor is attending summer school, a permit may only be issued if the minor is enrolled in school, not habitually truant, not under suspension and passing a majority of courses;
4. Increased the penalties against employers who violate provisions of the child labor laws. Higher penalties were allowed for multiple violations and for intentional or knowing violations of the provisions relating to prohibited employment of minors;
5. Permitted minors who are employed in the types of employment prohibited to their age group and who are injured in the workplace to sue their employers under the common law or any statutory cause of action, in addition to the minors' right to receive compensation under the Workers' Compensation Act. An offset was allowed against the civil damage award for any compensation collected by the minor; and
6. Added an appropriation and a fiscal note to the bill.

The minority report, Committee Amendment "B" (H-594), replaced the original bill and was identical to the majority report, but did not contain the provisions relating to the Workers' Compensation Act.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-347) reduced the age required to obtain a work permit for minor under 17 to minors under 16. It also provided that the Department of Labor was not required to modify and distribute its employment poster to reflect the changes contained in the bill.