

# 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**

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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.

**LD 1038**

**An Act Concerning the Placement of Campaign Signs Along Roads**

**ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
SHELTRA  
VOSE  
PAUL  
GURNEY

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have amended the billboard law to provide that election campaign signs may not be placed in rights-of-way that abut residential property.

**LD 1048**

**An Act Authorizing Presidential Primary Elections in the State**

**CARRIED OVER**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
RICHARDSON  
KONTOS  
GEAN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have required Maine to hold a presidential primary for selection of delegates to national nominating conventions. The primary would be held on the same day as the New Hampshire primary. Current law requires a presidential primary if there is a contest among candidates for the presidential nomination and the state committee of any qualified party requests that one be held. This bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session.

**LD 1053**

**An Act to Clarify Certain Election Laws**

**PUBLIC 466**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
MAYO  
RICHARDSON  
MILLS

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-497

**SUMMARY**

This bill makes several changes in the election laws, including the following:

1. Substitutes the requirement that voter registrars be residents of the municipality in which they are employed, with the provision that they simply be residents of the State;
2. Prevents 3rd parties from questioning people who are waiting to register about their eligibility, and establishes procedures for persons to monitor registrations.
3. Requires registrars to allow all persons who are present at their office at closing time on any business day to register to vote;
4. Removes the requirement that the county of residence and date, place and court of naturalization be listed on the State's voter registration application and the overseas voter registration application;
5. Allows the municipal clerk to accept voter registration applications when the municipal voter registrar is unavailable or the board of voter registration is not in session;