

# 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 1175**

**An Act to Allow State Employees to Donate Funds to a Political Cause Through a Payroll Deduction Program**

**CARRIED OVER**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
MAYO  
STROUT  
BUSTIN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-385

**SUMMARY**

This bill provides that the current law prohibiting state employees from using state facilities or services for a political cause does not prohibit state employees from donating funds to a political cause through a payroll deduction program.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-385) would have limited the payroll deduction to a political action program established by the employee's collective bargaining agent.

The bill was recommitted to committee and held over to the Second Regular Session.

**LD 1205**

**An Act Concerning Landlord-tenant Contracts of Adhesion**

**PUBLIC 361**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
GWADOSKY  
POULIN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-396

**SUMMARY**

This bill ensures that form residential leases do not require the tenant to give up tenant rights guaranteed by state law, unless the state law specifically permits waiver of the rights through negotiation between landlord and tenant. It also prohibits specific rental agreements that require the tenant to grant unfair concessions to the landlord, such as agreements absolving the landlord from liability for negligence, or requiring tenants to give a lien on their property. The bill applies these tenant protections to tenants of apartments and tenants of mobile home parks.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-396) clarifies the application of the bill to mobile home parks and prohibits rental agreement provisions requiring tenants to pay the landlord's legal fees regardless of the term of the provision. The amendment also makes the bill applicable only to agreements entered into or renewed on or after November 1, 1991 and adds a fiscal note.

**LD 1213**

**An Act Concerning Liquor Sales to Lounges, Taverns and Restaurants**

**LV/WD**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
PENDLETON

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
LV/WD

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have permitted restaurants, Class A lounges and taverns to purchase spirits from agency liquor stores. See LD 132.