

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
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*

MEMBERS:

**Sen. Jeffery N. Mills
Sen. Judy C. Kany
Sen. Charles E. Summers*

**Rep. Mark W. Lawrence
Rep. John Jalbert
Rep. Charles C. Plourde
Rep. Beverly C. Daggett
Rep. Thomas E. Poulin
Rep. Fred L. Richardson
Rep. Albert G. Stevens
Rep. Helen M. Tupper
Rep. Walter W. Hichens
Rep. Rodney V. Bowers*

**Denotes Chair*

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



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.

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.

but the Chief Medical Examiner may share the content of the communication with the family, a person addressed in the communication or the decedent's personal representative if the sharing would not compromise the investigation.

The bill gives medical examiners more freedom to use their own discretion in selecting physicians to do an autopsy, and allows the Chief Medical Examiner to give general approval to the selection without having to personally designate a specific physician in every case.

The bill requires reporting of missing persons to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in certain circumstances, and permits the Office to collect and maintain files and evidence on missing persons that might be needed to identify the individual if the individual is not found alive. It provides for confidentiality of the records and materials and for cooperation from government, medical and other private individuals and entities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-386) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1319 An Act Concerning Mobile Home Parks

INDEF PP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
LAWRENCE	ONTP MAJ	
MILLS	OTP-AM MIN	
MCKEEN		

SUMMARY

This bill would have required mobile home park owners to mediate or arbitrate disputes between mobile home park owners and tenants over evictions or changes in park rules or rental amounts. The park owner would not be permitted to change rules or evict a person until they had participated in mediation. The mediation would be nonbinding and the only obligation of the mobile home park owner would be to attend a requested meeting and a mediation session. If the mobile home park owner concluded that the tenants' complaints are without merit, mediation would be completed and the mobile home park owner's decision would stand. The mediation requirement would have been repealed January 1, 1993.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-525), the minority committee report, removed reference to arbitration and removed the requirement that the Manufactured Housing Board pay mediation costs for persons who are unable to pay. The amendment also required that a group of persons representing the majority of units and including at least one adult from each unit in the majority request a meeting with the park owner before the owner is required to meet and mediate. The amendment further required that homeowners and park owners participate in a voluntary mediation program offered by an organization other than the Manufactured Housing Board, before going to that board. Currently, the Manufactured Housing Association offers such a service. Finally, the amendment deleted the section making the requirement applicable only to parks with 50 or more lots.

LD 1331 An Act Regarding Sprinkler Systems in New Buildings

PUBLIC 359

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
BUSTIN	OTP-AM	S-193
PARADIS P		
DAGGETT		

SUMMARY

This bill requires that as of January 1, 1992 sprinkler systems be installed in all hotels of more than 2 stories or other buildings more than 75 feet high.