

# 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.

**LD 1337****An Act Concerning Eligibility for Weekly Disability Benefits****ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
 CONLEY  
 RAND  
 LUTHER

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
 ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill established that the ability to obtain work which is a reasonable commuting distance from the employee's community disqualifies an injured employee who has attained maximum medical improvement from benefits. It placed on the employer the burden of showing capacity to work and ability to obtain work within a reasonable daily commute from the employee's community.

**LD 1374 An Act to Clarify the Workers' Compensation Act****ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
 CONLEY

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
 ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill deleted the 400 week rule from the Workers' Compensation Act and provided for payments to continue no more than 400 weeks after maximum medical improvement after a commission finding of 50% or less incapacity. Periods of greater than 50% incapacity were not counted in the 400 week maximum. There was an exception for subsequent periods of incapacity from the injury of greater than 50%.

**LD 1376 An Act to Promote Economic Development****VETO SUSTAINED**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
 CONLEY  
 PRAY

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
 OTP-AM MAJ  
 ONTP MIN

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
 S-230 MAJ REP

**SUMMARY**

This bill required employers in the State who receive economic subsidies from the State to give a hiring preference to their existing employees whenever new employment positions are created by the employer. The bill required the employer to hire an existing employee if that employee is qualified to do the job and no better qualified applicant exists. The preference could not, however, conflict with any collective bargaining agreement applicable to the employer.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-230) removed investment tax credits from the definition of economic subsidies and added a fiscal note.

**LD 1382 An Act to Require the Maine Job Training System Service Providers to Make Teen Parents a Priority****ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
 CLARK M  
 MCKEEN  
 PINES

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
 ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill required all service providers in the Maine Job Training System to give priority to teenage parents in accepting applicants to all state and federal education and training programs administered by the Department of Labor and providing services to the participants.