

# 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.

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>		<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
ESTY	ONTP	MAJ	
LAWRENCE	OTP-AM	MIN	
RYDELL			

**SUMMARY**

The bill would have made several changes to the laws governing the relationship between an owner of a mobile home park and the tenants of that mobile home park. The bill would have defined "fair return" on property values for purposes of determining whether rent on a mobile home park lot is unreasonable or unjust, provided that a mobile home park owner may not consider rent late if it is paid within 15 days after the due date of the rent, granted a right of first refusal for tenants to purchase the mobile home park, and established a process for tenants to form a tenants' association to exercise the right of first refusal. Finally, the bill would have established a mediation program for disputes between the mobile home park owner and tenants.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-222), the minority committee report, would have deleted all provisions of the bill except those granting tenants a right of first refusal to purchase the mobile home park and the provisions relating to formation of the tenants' association to purchase the park.

**LD 1411 An Act Concerning the Number of Signatures Required for County Office Elections****PUBLIC 362**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
LIPMAN	OTP-AM	H-384
DUPLESSIS		

**SUMMARY**

This bill decreases the number of required nomination petition signatures for a county office candidate.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-384) achieves the intent of the sponsors of the bill by lowering the number of signatures required in county commissioner elections for both nomination by petition and by primary election. Under current law, a petition for primary election for the office of county commissioner in a county with a population of fewer than 50,000 must have between 50 and 75 signatures; a petition in a county with a greater population must have between 150 and 200 signatures. The amendment requires 50 to 75 signatures for all counties, regardless of population. The amendment also decreases the number of signatures required for nomination by petition for the office of county commissioner from 300 to 100, which is double the number of signatures required for nomination by primary election.

**LD 1472 An Act to Prohibit the Use of Stickers on Trespassing Motor Vehicles****PUBLIC 424**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
GURNEY	OTP-AM	H-451
SKOGLUND		
SHELTRA		

**SUMMARY**

This bill prohibits the owners of residential or nonresidential property upon which motor vehicles are trespassing from affixing stickers or other devices to the trespassing motor vehicle.