

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
HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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:

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.

LD 1764 An Act to Promote Affordable Housing for Persons of Low to Moderate Income

**PUBLIC 373
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
LARRIVEE HOGLUND MITCHELL E HEESCHEN	OTP-AM	H-392

SUMMARY

The original bill created statutory language that provides a framework for municipalities, non-profit organizations and others who may wish to establish affordable housing covenants. Among other things, the bill removes common law defenses that could impede the use of covenants that are intended to create and maintain affordable housing.

Committee Amendment (H-392) made stylistic changes to the original bill and added a fiscal note clarifying that a minimal number of additional cases may be filed in Superior Court as a result of the bill.

LD 1769 An Act to Encourage Business Investments

**PUBLIC 606
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
CASHMAN KILKELLY MELENDY BRANNIGAN	OTP-AM	H-603 S-445 BRANNIGAN

SUMMARY

The original bill accomplished the following:

Part A expanded the state tax increment financing program to include state income and sales taxes. A portion of the state taxes that would not have been generated but for the additional funding provided by this Part were to be returned to private industry and municipalities. The program would be administered by the Finance Authority of Maine.

Part B provided a General Fund appropriation of \$40,000 to the Maine World Trade Association to improve trade with the Canadian provinces in proximity to Maine.

Part C established the Jump Start program at the Maine State Housing Authority that sets aside existing funds for the purchase of newly constructed homes.

Part D established the Commission to Study State Permitting and Reporting Requirements, which will study the State's regulatory process and recommend improvements.

Parts E and F authorized a \$25,000,000 General Fund bond issue to capitalize the Maine Street Investment Program within the Finance Authority of Maine to encourage improvements to the State's downtown and business districts.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-603) made several changes to the original bill.

In Part A, the provision that would have encouraged construction of major public facilities was eliminated and several clarifications were made concerning operation of state tax increment financing districts.

In Part C, the Maine State Housing Authority was directed to make available for 30 days 30% of the proceeds of mortgage purchase bonds for the purchase of mortgage loans for newly constructed owner-occupied housing. The original bill required the housing authority to make those proceeds available for 3 months.

In Part D, language was added directing the Commission to study the feasibility of a single administrative location where all license fees for businesses may be paid and the feasibility of a generic form or forms to be used in permitting, reporting and licensing.

Part E, which contained language for the \$25 million bond issue to support the Maine Street Investment Fund, was deleted from the original bill. A bond issue of \$7.5 million was eventually enacted to fund the programs outlined in this bill through LD 1950.

Part F provided further technical details concerning operation of the Maine Street Investment Program Fund.

Part G removed existing restrictions on the issuance of tax-exempt bonds for nonprofit entities that are otherwise eligible under the federal Internal Revenue Code.

The amendment also added a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate amendment "A" (S-445) removed the ability to make grants under the Maine Street Investment Program. It also transferred administration of the state tax increment financing program from the Finance Authority of Maine to the Department of Economic and Community Development.

The amendment established the Economic Opportunity Fund and the Economic Opportunity Program. Both are to be administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development to provide loans to municipalities for public and private investment.

The amendment also deleted the appropriation to the Maine World Trade Association and encourages increased trade with Canada.

The amendment also replaced the fiscal note, changed the reporting date of the Commission to Study State Permitting and Reporting Requirements from December 1, 1991 to November 1, 1991, and removed language requiring that staff assistance be provided by the business community

LD 1772 An Act to Appropriate Funds to the Maine Council on Economic Education LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)
SIMONDS

COMMITTEE REPORT
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have provided matching funds up to a total of \$100,000 in support of the Maine Council on Economic Education. These funds would have been matched by contributions from the private sector.