

# 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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*Michael D. Higgins, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101, State House Station 13  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 289-1670*

*\*Denotes Chair*

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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:

<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.

**An Act to Extend Confidentiality Status to Certain Records of Applicants for Housing, Community or Economic Development Activities**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
LEBOWITZ  
MELENDY  
CAHILL P  
CLEVELAND

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-435 MELENDY

**SUMMARY**

The original bill sought to balance the need for accountability with the privacy rights of applicants for state or local economic development assistance and to encourage submission of proposals that would benefit the municipality or the state. Under current law, the Department of Economic and Community Development and municipalities may be required to disclose personal financial information of applicants for state or local economic development assistance. The bill protected personal information, such as tax returns or financial statements, from public disclosure when submitted under a state or local program for housing, community or economic development. Certain competitive business information was also protected.

Committee Amendment (H-435) provided further detail concerning the kinds of material to be held confidential under the Maine Revised Statutes, chapter 383, subchapter VIII. That material includes records obtained or developed by the Department of Economic and Community Development or a municipality in connection with monitoring or servicing a program of assistance; records obtained by the department or a municipality that contain a credit assessment of a person or project; and any records obtained or developed by the department or a municipality concerning the matching of potential investors with Maine businesses by the department or the municipality.

**LD 1874 An Act to Amend and Extend the Fuel Assistance Reserve Fund**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
LUDWIG  
FOSTER

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have extended the Fuel Assistance Reserve Fund, established in 1990, for one year and renamed it the Energy Assistance Reserve Fund to more appropriately describe the uses of the fund. The bill would have allowed the fund to be used for the energy crisis intervention program, which assists families in emergency situations, as well as for the payment of regular fuel assistance benefits. The bill would have allocated \$8,000,000 to the Division of Community Services for recapitalizing the Energy Assistance Reserve Fund. The fund would have been used as start-up funding for the fuel assistance program only if federal block grant funding was not received by October 1st. If the fund had been used, the division would have been required to recapitalize the fund by June 30, 1992.