

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
JUDICIARY

MAY 1992

Staff:

*Margaret J. Reinsch, Legislative Analyst
Deborah C. Friedman, Legislative Analyst
Julie S. Jones, Principal Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Station 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

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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
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

MAY 1992

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 far right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of enacted Resolve
CON RES XXX	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
EMERGENCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
CARRIED OVER	Bill carried over to Special Session
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass report accepted
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw report accepted
INDEF PP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House and Senate disagree; bill died
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE	Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree
VETO SUSTAINED	Legislature filed to override Governor's Veto
UNSIGNED	Not signed by Governor within 10 days
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died

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, 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 Clarify the Conduct of Proceedings in Child Protection Cases

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)GEAN
GILL
GOODRIDGE**COMMITTEE REPORT**

ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**SUMMARY**

Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 35 directs that mental or physical examinations of a party or person be conducted by a physician. Section 1 of the bill revised the law to provide that, under the child protection laws, these evaluations may be conducted by other qualified professionals.

Section 2 of the bill provided that the written reports of mental health professionals regarding other parties in a child protection proceeding must be treated the same as reports regarding a child.

LD 2037**An Act Authorizing Court Clerks to Sign Abstracts of Certain Proceedings Involving Real Estate**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)MARSANO
REED W
HANLEY
PARADIS P**COMMITTEE REPORT**

ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**SUMMARY**

The bill authorized court clerks to sign abstracts of certain judicial procedures that are currently required to be prepared, signed by a judge and recorded in the registry of deeds.

See LD 2124.

LD 2040**An Act to Increase the Penalties for Committing Repeated Crimes against the Person and Repeated Acts of Domestic Violence**

PUBLIC 866

SPONSOR(S)CATHCART
HOLLOWAY
RICHARDS
STEVENS P**COMMITTEE REPORT**

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-1068

SUMMARY

The bill enhances the classification of the crime of assault in much the same way as the crime harassment was enhanced by Public Law 1991, chapter 566. This bill increases the class level of assault by one class in each instance if the person committing the assault has 2 or more prior convictions for assault within the immediately preceding 5 years.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1068): The amendment replaces the bill but carries out the original intent to make repeated assaults against members of the actor's family or household a more serious crime. This amendment does not include the provisions in the original bill regarding additional enhancement of penalties for extremely young victims of assault. The current Class C classification is retained for assaults against victims under 6 years of age.