MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE 115TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MAY 1992

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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
P&S XXX
RESOLVE XXX
CON RES XXX
EMERGENCY
CARRIED OVER
ONTP
LVWD
INDEF PP
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT
DIED BETWEEN BODIES
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE
VETO SUSTAINED
UNSIGNED
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT

Chapter # of enacted Public Law
Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
Chapter # of enacted Resolve
Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
Bill carried over to Special Session
Ought Not to Pass report accepted
Leave to Withdraw report accepted
Bill Indefinitely Postponed
Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
House and Senate disagree; bill died
Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree
Legislature filed to override Governor's Veto
Not signed by Governor within 10 days
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.

Part G of the bill establishes the Commission to Review Environmental Standards, which will identify environmental rules that are more stringent than federal standards and evaluate the costs and benefits of continuing those rules as opposed to adopting the federal standards.

There is a companion bond issue to this bill, "An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$10,000,000 to Provide for Job Retention and Job Creation," LD 2414, that provides for a bond issue for the creation of jobs.

Both LD 2414 and 2415 were reported out by the committee ONTP and a committee economic development package of 3 bills was developed encompassing some of the elements of LD 2415 and other proposals. Those bills were LDs 2454, 2455 and a Joint Resolution petitioning Congress and the President to extend the termination date of the small industrial development revenue bond program.

An Act to Provide Skills Training for Unemployed Workers (Reported Pursuant to Joint Order, HP1766)

CARRIED OVER

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill is one piece of the committee's long-term economic development package which was developed and reported out pursuant to joint order. (LD 2455 and a Joint Resolution memorializing Congress and the President of extend the sunset date for the small business industrial development bond program are the other parts) This bill appropriates \$4.9 million to provide skills training for unemployed workers through the Technical College System. (The MTCS estimates another \$4.7 million is needed to carry out the proposal in FY 94.) Several floor amendments were prepared to attempt to create revenue to fund the MTCS proposal and to establish and fund a research and development proposal within the University of Maine System. However, those amendments were not adopted; and rather than let the bill die on the Appropriations Table for lack of funding, it was recommitted to the committee and held over to the Special Session. In the meantime, LD 2463 was engrossed without reference to committee and enacted. That bill authorizes submission of a \$9,985,000 million bond issue to the voters in November to fund the MTCS jobs training proposal for unemployed workers.

LD 2455

An Act to Create Jobs, Promote Economic Growth and Provide Business Assistance

PUBLIC 854
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

S-740 BRANNIGAN

SUMMARY

This bill is one piece of the committee's long-term economic development package which was reported by the committee pursuant to Joint Order. (LD 2454 and a Joint Resolution memorializing Congress and the President to extend the sunset date for the small business industrial development bond program are the other parts.) This bill contains 4 parts designed to encourage short-term and long-term economic development to provide and business assistance. Part A of the bill revises the laws governing the operations of the Finance Authority of Maine to expand participation in FAME's small business loan program and Maine Seed Capital Tax Credit Program.

Part B of the bill establishes in the statutes the Task Force on Defense Realignment and the Economy, which previously existed as a result of Executive Order. The task force is charged with comprehensive, long-range planning for economic conversion resulting from the curtailment in national defense spending and defense realignment.

Part C of the bill directs the Department of Labor to study innovative uses of unemployment insurance compensation funds to encourage unemployed workers to return to work and employers to create and retain jobs.

Part D of the bill creates a comprehensive long-term planning process for economic growth. Part D establishes:

- 1. A process for developing and updating the State's long-term plan for economic growth, an effort to be conducted jointly between State Government, the educational system and the private sector;
- 2. A structure within State Government to coordinate the delivery of economic development and business assistance services outlined in the long-term plan; and
- 3. A continuing process to evaluate the extent to which the goals and strategies of the long-term plan have been accomplished, including the coordination effort.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-740) replaces the fiscal note to the bill to indicate possible loss of revenue to the General Fund resulting in the changes the bill makes in the Maine Seed Capital Tax Credit Program.

An Act to Create Job Opportunities for Unemployed Maine People

P & S 107

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

GWADOSKY CROWLEY MELENDY MATTHEWS

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes a bond issue, in the amount of \$9,985,000, to be used to fund tuition for unemployed Maine citizens enrolled as full-time students in eligible training programs offered by the Maine Technical College System. The bond authorization will be submitted to the voters in November for approval.

4257GEA