

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGING, RETIREMENT AND VETERANS

JULY 1993

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

JULY 1993

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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:

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

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

4693NRG

Joint Standing Committee on Aging, Retirement & Veterans

LD 28 **An Act to Clarify Eligibility for Ordinary Death Benefits under the Maine State Retirement System** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
SIMONDS	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have amended P&SL 1991, c. 122, §1 to provide a surviving spouse death benefits if the member was receiving a disability retirement benefit and dies as a result of that disabling condition before July 1, 1993.

LD 29 **An Act to Permit Retired Teachers to Rejoin the Teachers Health Insurance Plan after Serving in the Legislature** PUBLIC 43

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TUFTS	OTP-AM	H-49

SUMMARY

This bill requires that a retired teacher who serves as a Legislator be allowed to rejoin the teachers' insurance plan if that person had maintained continuous insurance coverage to within 90 days of the date of reenrollment. The committee amendment (H-49) permits members of the 116th Legislature who did not enroll in the group health plan upon employment to enroll in the plan within 30 days of the effective date of the act.

LD 30 **An Act to Permit Arthur Rogers to Change His Retirement Option** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
JACQUES	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have allowed former game warden Arthur Rogers to change his retirement benefit election so that his wife could receive a benefit following his death notwithstanding the provision of the retirement laws that prohibits any change after receipt of the first benefit check.

LD 53 **An Act to Improve Access to Maine's Veterans' Homes** PUBLIC 426
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
VOSE	OTP-AM	S-84

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes additional Maine Veterans' Homes in eastern Maine and in western Maine as long as the total number of beds in these homes does not exceed 240 beds. The committee amendment (S-84) specifies that the homes previously authorized for eastern and western Maine are located in Bangor and South Paris with 120 beds and 90 beds, respectively, and further authorizes an additional home in Machias

with up to 60 beds. The Machias home may not begin operation prior to July 1, 1995 and may not jeopardize the funding or financial viability of any other home.

LD 90 Resolve, Instructing the Commissioner of the Department of Defense and Veterans' Services to Transfer a Surplus Facility to the Town of Rumford ONTP

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
ERWIN ONTP

SUMMARY

This resolve would have required the Commissioner of the Department of Defense and Veterans' Services to transfer the Rumford armory to the Town of Rumford for \$1.

LD 91 An Act to Amend the Retirement Laws ONTP

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MITCHELL E ONTP

SUMMARY

Under the former provisions governing the payment of ordinary death benefits from the Maine State Retirement System, the surviving spouse became ineligible to receive any benefit if that spouse became the dependent of another person. This bill would have provided that for persons disqualified by that former provision, eligibility would resume when the surviving spouse is no longer the dependent of another person.

LD 128 An Act Regarding Survivor Benefits ONTP

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
DUTREMBLE D ONTP

SUMMARY

This bill would have permitted the surviving spouse of a deceased member of the Maine State Retirement System to purchase up to 3 months of service credit for the deceased. Under current law, if the member in service dies before July 1, 1993, that member must be eligible for retirement at the time of death for the beneficiary to be entitled to receive the member's retirement benefit. This bill would make possible a benefit for the survivor of a member who dies within 3 months of having enough service to be eligible for a retirement benefit.

LD 135 An Act to Reinstate the Secretary of the Veterans' Counselor in Washington County ONTP

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
VOSE ONTP

SUMMARY

This bill would have appropriated funds to reinstate the secretary of the veterans' counselor in Washington County.