# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the

LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY

at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library

http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied (searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

### STATE OF MAINE 116TH LEGISLATURE

### FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# BILL SUMMARIES JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

**JULY 1993** 

### **MEMBERS:**

\*Sen. Gerard P. Conley, Jr. Sen. Georgette B. Berube Sen. Dana C. Hanley

\*Rep. Constance D. Cote Rep. Susan Farnsworth Rep. Mary R. Cathcart Rep. Andrew Ketterer Rep. Edward L. Caron, Jr. Rep. Sean F. Faircloth Rep. Jane W. Saxl Rep. David N. Ott Rep. Sumner H. Lipman Rep. Debra D. Plowman

\*Denotes Chair

### Staff:

Margaret J. Reinsch, 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 MARTHA E. FREEMAN, DIRECTOR
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR., PRINCIPAL ANALYST
JULIE S. JONES, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
DAVID C. ELLIOTT, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
MARION HYLAN BARR
JON CLARK
LISA COPENHAVER
DEBORAH C. FRIEDMAN
MICHAEL D. HIGGINS

JILL IPPOLITI



JOHN B. KNOX
ROY W. LENARDSON
PATRICK NORTON
JANE ORBETON
MARGARET J. REINSCH
PAUL J. SAUCIER
JOHN G. KELLEY, RESEARCHER
DARLENE A. SHORES LYNCH, RESEARCHER
CARRIE C. McFADDEN, RESEARCHER

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

ROOM 101/107/135 STATE HOUSE STATION 13 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333 TEL: (207) 287-1670

FAX (207) 287-1670

# 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:

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

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

4693NRG

LD 627

An Act to Amend the Adult Protective Services Act

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

BUSTIN

ONTP

#### **SUMMARY**

The bill would have allowed a current employer or other person who in good faith has reported an individual to the Department of Human Services for suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation to share this information with a person seeking an employment reference or anyone currently employing such an individual.

LD 632

An Act to Protect the Identity of Minor Witnesses in Criminal Trials

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

BUSTIN

ONTP

#### **SUMMARY**

The bill would have allowed the court to close the courtroom to all but persons necessary to the proceedings when a victim or witness is testifying in a criminal proceeding and the victim or witness is under 16 years of age. In addition, lists of grand jury witnesses that are released to the public could not include the name of any person testifying during a proceeding closed to protect the victim or witness.

LD 649

An Act Regarding Priorities in the Probate Code

OTP-AM

PUBLIC 109

SPONSOR(S)

**COMMITTEE REPORT** 

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED** 

H-140

FARNSWORTH

#### **SUMMARY**

The bill allows a person who does not have priority to be appointed as a personal representative in informal proceedings. Current law only allows for appointment of such a person through formal proceedings.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-140) clarifies language.

LD 657

An Act to Charge a Fee for Superior Court and District Court File Searches for Criminal Convictions

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

**COMMITTEE REPORT** 

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

COFFMAN

ONTP

### **SUMMARY**

The bill would have directed the Supreme Judicial Court to adopt rules charging a fee for searches of court records for criminal conviction records.