

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MAY 1994

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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**MAY 1994**

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, 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*

*P&S XXX*

*RESOLVE XXX*

*CON RES XXX*

*EMERGENCY*

*ONTP*

*INDEF PP*

*FAILED ENACTMENT*

*FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT*

*FAILED MANDATE 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*

*Ought Not to Pass report accepted*

*Bill Indefinitely Postponed*

*Bill failed to get majority vote*

*Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote*

*Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote*

*House & Senate disagree; bill died*

*Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died*

*Legislature failed 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. If you have any suggestions or comments on the summaries, please let us know.

5581LHS

SENATE AMENDMENT "B" (S-554) TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-877) adds an emergency preamble and clause and directs the Commission to Study Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering to consider mechanisms by which both risks and benefits created by the use of biotechnology and genetic engineering products and waste products may be evaluated. The Senate Amendment also adds the President of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation as an ex officio member and requires that the environmental scientist be familiar with biotechnology and genetic engineering issues.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-1058) clarifies that the president of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation is not subject to the appointment procedure.

**LD 1385**      **An Act to Provide One Centralized Location for Obtaining Permits**      ONTP

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
WINN BUSTIN MICHAEL	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill establishes a permitting center within the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Business Development. The center will allow businesses to get all necessary state license or permit applications in one location. The center also mediates disputes between permitting agencies and businesses and tracks permitting actions within State Government.

**LD 1399**      **An Act to Encourage Residential Energy Efficiency**      ONTP

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
HEESCHEN	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill establishes a residential home energy-rating system and an energy-efficient mortgage pilot program to promote energy efficiency in existing residential buildings, by ensuring availability of energy efficiency information at the time of sale. LD 1408 in the Banking and Insurance Committee establishes a task force to look at the home energy rating system.

**LD 1461**      **An Act to Establish a Capital Access Program**      ONTP

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
PINGREE TREAT	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this bill is to establish a Capital Access Program. The Capital Access program is designed to give banks a flexible tool to make business loans that are somewhat riskier than a conventional bank loan. This bill was incorporated in LD 1547, contingent upon passage of the bond issue.