

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AFFAIRS

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

7. The bill would have placed strict limits on in-kind contributions and soft money expenditures for participating candidates.
8. The bill would have required the Maine Elections and Ethics Commission to provide recommendations for additional provisions concerning audits, accountability and sanctions to be presented to the Legislature for adoption or disapproval.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-587), part of the minority committee report, would have made the following changes.

1. The amendment would have changed the selection process of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Elections Practices and renamed the commission the Maine Elections and Ethics Commission.
2. The amendment would have required that a candidate for Governor obtain at least 7,500 and not more than 10,000 voter signatures and pay a \$2,000 filing fee to participate in the fund. The amendment would have required that a candidate for State Senator obtain at least 400 and not more than 600 voter signatures and pay a \$250 filing fee to participate in the fund. The amendment would have required that a candidate for State Representative obtain at least 200 and not more than 300 voter signatures and pay a filing fee of \$125 to participate in the fund. Unenrolled candidates would have had to obtain double the amount of signatures and pay the same filing fee as above.
3. The amendment set forth requirements special election candidates would have had to follow in to participate in the fund.
4. The amendment would have clarified reporting requirements for those candidates not participating in the fund.
5. The amendment would have required the State Tax Assessor to transfer the \$4 fee paid by each taxpayer to the fund.
6. The amendment would have set limits on the amount of fund money distributed to unopposed candidates in postprimary elections.
7. The amendment also would have made technical changes and added a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1452 An Act Concerning the Subject Matter of Referenda

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

BEGLEY

COMMITTEE REPORT

ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have amended the laws governing initiative petitions to require that the voters be presented with a separate question for each policy objective that a proposed initiative addresses. The Secretary of State would have been given the duty of reviewing all initiative petitions to determine if there were multiple policy objectives, and, if so, ensure that a separate question was presented for each policy objective.