

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.

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Senate Amendment "E" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-323) would have made the same changes as House Amendment "A".

Senate Amendment "F" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-325) would have removed the proposed changes relating to deputy registrars and would have removed the language repealing current law governing boards of registration.

Senate Amendment "G" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-326) would have made the same changes as House Amendment "G".

Senate Amendment "H" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-330) would have removed the provisions of the committee amendment that allow disputed elections for state officers to be determined by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court.

Committee of Conference Amendment "A" (S-343) would have replaced the entire bill and the entire committee amendment. The amendment would have incorporated most of Committee Amendment "A" and the changes to the committee amendment proposed by House Amendment "B", House Amendment "D", House Amendment "F" and Senate Amendment "F" to Committee Amendment "A". It also would have incorporated a modified version of Senate Amendment "E" to Committee Amendment "A" and would have amended the definition of "residence" to spell out the criteria to be used in determining a person's residence for the purpose of voting. The amendment also would have clarified the intent of Senate Amendment "F" to delete all proposed changes to the method of selecting registrars, deputy registrars, election clerks and ballot counters.

LD 1488 **An Act to Clarify the Process for a Direct Initiative
of Legislation and to Simplify Questions Presented to the
Voters at a Referendum**

PUBLIC 352

SPONSOR(S)
GEAN
CAHILL

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-497

SUMMARY

This bill makes a number of changes to streamline and clarify the procedures to be used by the Department of the Secretary of State in processing and reviewing applications and petitions for direct initiatives of legislation and referenda and sets standards for the wording of referendum questions adopted by the Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-497) deletes the reference to "after payment" in the provision on the Secretary of State reviewing the proposed law for proper form. It also deletes the requirement that a decision of the Secretary of State rejecting an application be given within 35 days, leaving in the law the requirement that notice be given within 15 days. The amendment adds a provision that requires the Secretary of State to advise petitioners on the proper suggested format for questions, following the outline of section 4 of the bill.

LD 1495 **An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Inspection of Ballots**

CARRIED OVER

SPONSOR(S)
DIPIETRO

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would amend the laws concerning the inspection of ballots and incoming voting lists by candidates for municipal offices.