

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

AUGUST 1995

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Sen. Albert G. Stevens, Jr.
Sen. Michael H. Michaud

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

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION BEFORE
THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES**

AUGUST 1995

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing 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 publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, is helpful in determining to which committee any particular bill was referred.

In this document, 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 categories of final action are abbreviated as follows:

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

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If more detailed information is needed on a bill, contact the committee analyst.

5581LHS

LD 78**An Act to Change the Dates on Which Primary Elections are Held and Certain Nomination Papers May be Signed**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
HANLEY**COMMITTEE REPORT**
ONTP**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****SUMMARY**

This bill would have changed the date of primary elections in Maine from the 2nd Tuesday in June to the 1st Tuesday after the 1st Monday in September. The dates for signing and filing primary petitions would have also changed to maintain the same amount of time between the signing and filing of the petition and the primary as current law.

The bill would have also changed the date for signing nomination petitions for unenrolled candidates to correspond with the dates of signing petitions for enrolled candidates.

LD 98**An Act to Allow Wine Tasting in Fine Wine Stores and at Special Festivals**PUBLIC 30
EMERGENCY**SPONSOR(S)**
RICHARDSON
CLEVELAND**COMMITTEE REPORT**
OTP-AM**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
H-59**SUMMARY**

The law prior to the passage of this bill allowed retail liquor stores to hold wine-tasting activities only if 50% or more of the store's income was from the sale of wine or malt liquor. This bill defined "fine wine store" and allowed those stores to engage in wine-tasting activities.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-59) broadened the bill by permitting the manufacturers of wine to apply for a special taste-testing festival license and to participate in a taste-testing festival. It also changed the title of the bill and added an emergency preamble, emergency clause and a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 104**An Act to Ban Political Action Committee Money in Legislative Races**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
LIBBY JD**COMMITTEE REPORT**
ONTP**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****SUMMARY**

This bill would have prohibited political action committees from making financial contributions to any candidate for the state Legislature.

LD 105**An Act to Allow Off-duty Police Officers to Work in Retail Stores That Are Licensed to Sell Alcoholic Beverages**

PUBLIC 16

SPONSOR(S)
FARNUM**COMMITTEE REPORT**
OTP**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****SUMMARY**

This bill repealed the existing prohibition against hiring a law enforcement officer for the purpose of serving or selling liquor by a retail liquor licensee.