

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
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR

AUGUST 1995

Staff:

*Lisa Copenhaver, Legislative Analyst
David Elliott, Principal Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

MEMBERS:

**Sen. Charles M. Begley
Sen. S. Peter Mills
Sen. Anne M. Rand*

**Rep. Pamela H. Hatch
Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr.
Rep. Gail M. Chase
Rep. Patricia Lemaire
Rep. Roland B. Samson
Rep. Henry L. Joy
Rep. Steven Joyce
Rep. Robert E. Pendleton, Jr.
Rep. Vaughn A. Stedman
Rep. Tom J. Winsor*

**Denotes Chair*



**Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

State House Station 13, Augusta, Maine 04333
Telephone (207) 287-1670
Telecopier (207) 287-1275

**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:

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

3. Future unfunded liability arising from experience losses must be paid over a 10-year period.

The amendment would have clarified the title of the resolution and the headings of the sections proposed to be added to the Constitution of Maine and reworded the referendum question to reflect this amendment and the intent of the resolution. The amendment also would have added a fiscal note to the resolution.

LD 159 **An Act to Require the State to Pay Medicare Costs for Retired State Employees and Retired Teachers** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT		AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
BUSTIN	ONTP	MAJ	
HATCH	OTP-AM	MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill would have required the Maine State Retirement System to pay Medicare Part B premiums for state retirees and retired teachers who are transferred from state-paid health insurance coverage to Medicare on becoming eligible for Social Security.

LD 178 **An Act to Amend the Misconduct Provisions of the Unemployment Compensation Law** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT		AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
CHASE	OTP-AM	MAJ	
	ONTP	MIN	

SUMMARY

The original bill provided that a single act of negligence may not be considered misconduct under the Employment Security Law unless that act rises to the level of gross negligence. The majority report of the committee would have replaced the bill and provided that one act of simple negligence would not be considered misconduct. The intent of the amendment was to clarify that a single instance of mere carelessness or inattentiveness is not misconduct under current law and that the Law Court's decision in Forbes-Lilley v. Maine Unemployment Insurance Commission, 643 A.2d 377 (1994) does not permit denial of benefits for one act of simple negligence.

LD 184 **An Act to Require the Maine Retirement System to Buy Stock in the Paper Companies** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
SIMONEAU	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have repealed the provisions governing the Pulp and Paper Environmental Investment Fund and required that the Maine State Retirement System purchase stock in paper companies with operations in the State. The amount of money required to be invested in the paper industry is equal to the recommended appropriation to the Pulp and Paper Environmental Investment Fund.