

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

AUGUST 1995

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*Denotes Chair



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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:

<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

SUMMARY

This resolve creates the New England Regional Commission on Fiscal and Public Policy to develop fiscal and public policies that benefit the New England states, all of which are eligible to participate.

LD 280 **An Act to Annex Fortunes Rocks and Granite Point to the Town of Kennebunkport** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
JOYCE	ONTP	

SUMMARY

Subject to approval by the voters in Fortunes Rocks, Granite Point and the Town of Kennebunkport, this bill authorizes the separation of the territory consisting of Fortunes Rocks and Granite Point from the City of Biddeford and the annexation of that territory to the Town of Kennebunkport.

LD 292 **An Act to Establish the Chesuncook Soil Series as the Official State Soil** DIED BETWEEN BODIES

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
O'DEA	OTP MAJ	
	ONTP MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill establishes the Chesuncook soil series as the official state soil.

LD 297 **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Provide for 4-year Terms for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives** ONTP

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

SUMMARY

This resolution proposes a Constitutional amendment to change Legislators' terms to 4 years following the general election in 1998. The Legislature meets every year, but the business in the 4th year would be restricted as it is presently in the 2nd year.

LD 305 **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Allowing Maine Citizens to Propose Constitutional Amendments by Initiative** ONTP

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

SUMMARY

This resolution proposes a Constitutional amendment to permit citizens to initiate amendments to the Constitution. A citizen-initiated amendment requires approval by 2/3 of the voters at a referendum, ratification by a majority of the Legislature and signature of the Governor. The Governor's veto of the amendment may be overridden by a majority vote in both Houses.

LD 317 **Resolve, Creating the Commission to Restructure State Government** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TUTTLE	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This resolve establishes the Commission to Restructure State Government to look at several specific issues, including the size of the Legislature, salaries of Legislators, a unicameral legislature, 4-year Senate terms and the appointment process for constitutional officers.

LD 319 **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Require that Constitutional Officers Be Appointed by the Governor** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
HARRIMAN	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This resolution proposes a Constitutional amendment to provide for the appointment by the Governor of the Secretary of State, the Treasurer of State and the Attorney General.

LD 323 **An Act to Change the Laws Pertaining to the Issuance of Copies of Marriage Certificates by Towns** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MICHAUD	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill provides that a town clerk may charge \$7 for the first copy of a marriage certificate and \$3 for each additional copy. Current law requires a clerk to charge these fees.

LD 342 **An Act to Create a Legislative Budget Office** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
AHEARNE	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill permits the Legislative Council to create the Legislative Finance Office, which would provide budget analysis as well as develop and analyze alternative fiscal policies.