

# 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. Norman K. Ferguson, Jr.*  
*Sen. Albert G. Stevens, Jr.*  
*Sen. Michael H. Michaud*

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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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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

**LD 358 An Act to Require the Use of the Process of Forcible Entry and Detainer in Eviction of Mobile Home Owners and Tenants**

PUBLIC 60

**SPONSOR(S)**  
JONES K

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-73

**SUMMARY**

This bill required that the process for forcible entry and detainer apply to mobile home dwellers when evicted.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-73) added a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 359 An Act to Allow a Prevailing Tenant Reasonable Attorney's Fees in a Warranty of Habitability Case**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
JONES K

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have allowed a court to award reasonable attorney's fees to a prevailing tenant in a warranty of habitability case.

**LD 372 An Act to Appropriate Funds for the Expansion and Renovation of the Norway Armory**

PUBLIC 489

**SPONSOR(S)**

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-24  
S-402 HANLEY

**SUMMARY**

This bill provided a General Fund appropriation in fiscal year 1994-95 of \$542,937 to the Department of Defense and Veterans' Services. These funds were ear-marked as the State's matching share of the costs of expansion and renovation of the Norway Armory.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-24) added a fiscal note to the bill.

SENATE AMENDMENT "C" (S-402) authorized a transfer of \$500,000 in fiscal year 1995-96 from the Maine Rainy Day Fund for the State's matching share of the costs of renovating the Norway Armory.

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-46) would have authorized the transfer of funds from the Maine Rainy Day Fund appropriated in COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-24). (Not adopted)

SENATE AMENDMENT "B" (S-393) would have duplicated SENATE AMENDMENT "C" (S-402). (Not Adopted)