

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

LD 378 **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine to Provide for 4-year Terms for Senators** **DIED BETWEEN
BODIES**

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

SUMMARY

This resolution proposes a Constitutional amendment to change a Senator's term to 4 years and limit to 2 the number of terms a Senator may serve consecutively beginning with the general election in 1998.

LD 381 **An Act to Ensure Public Access to All Legislative
Constituent Allowance Expenditures** **ONTP**

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

SUMMARY

This bill requires a Legislator to account for and provide an itemized list of expenditures from the allowance for constituent services. The bill also requires that a Legislator return any unexpended amount to the Legislative Council.

LD 386 **An Act to Establish the Maine Commission on Community
Service** **PUBLIC 54**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
BRENNAN	OTP-AM	H-102 DAGGETT H-57

SUMMARY

On September 21, 1993, the federal National and Community Service Trust Act was enacted to engage citizens in meeting critical needs through direct community-based service. That Act requires that every state wishing to participate in national service initiatives create a bipartisan commission on national and community service or a comparable entity. This bill puts into law the Maine Commission on Community Service previously established by an executive order of the Governor.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-57) replaces the original bill. The amendment refines the mission of the Commission on community service, clarifies several of the membership provisions, requires an annual report and adds an allocation section.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-102) clarifies the transition provision of Committee Amendment "A."

LD 392 **An Act to Clarify the Collection of Sewer Charges** **ONTP**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
ROWE	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill clarifies the date of commitment of uncollected sewer charges to the treasurers of sewer districts as the date when the lien filing period is calculated. The bill designates the same date for collection of sewer charges as the date for the collection of real property taxes.

LD 398 **An Act to Ensure Courteous Treatment of the Public by State Employees** ONTP

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

SUMMARY

This bill makes discourteous treatment of citizens by state employees a subject for attention in the Total Quality Management process and in employee training and development programs. The bill also requires that courteous treatment of the public be evaluated in employee performance appraisals. The bill establishes the Office of Citizen Relations with a toll-free number that citizens may call to register complaints. The Office of Citizen Relations forwards the information received to the appropriate department for investigation and resolution.

LD 404 **Resolve, That State Agencies Develop a Refund-for-Compliance Policy** ONTP

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

SUMMARY

This resolve directs agencies that use fines in the enforcement of state and federal laws to develop a mechanism by which 90% of the fines may be returned to those businesses or individuals that come into compliance.

LD 412 **An Act Relating to Building Permit Ordinances** PUBLIC 89

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT		AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WINN	OTP		

SUMMARY

This bill is intended to clarify that the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, sections 4101 to 4104 do not apply to permits or other actions governed by a local zoning or shoreland zoning ordinance. It is intended to eliminate conflicts that might otherwise exist between any such ordinances and the provisions of Title 30-A, sections 4101 to 4104 regarding administration, enforcement and appeals.

LD 418 **An Act to Amend the Governmental Structure and Budget Approval Process for Cumberland County** PUBLIC 380
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT		AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
LABRECQUE	OTP-AM		H-530
			H-586 LABRECQUE