

# 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 &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

**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)**

LANE

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

OTP-AM

MAJ

ONTP

MIN

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****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)**

JOY

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

ONTP

MAJ

OTP-AM

MIN

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****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)**

WINN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

OTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****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)**

LABRECQUE

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

H-530

H-586 LABRECQUE