

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
BANKING AND INSURANCE

AUGUST 1995

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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

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-161) to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" excludes short-term contracts from community rating provision requirements.

LD 478 **An Act to Make Certain Housekeeping Changes to the Banking Code Regarding Hours of Operation, Closing During Emergencies, the Publication of Reports of Financial Condition and the Maturity of Credit Lines** PUBLIC 24

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MAYO	OTP-AM	H-28

SUMMARY

This bill amends the banking laws. It repeals the requirement that a financial institution close on a day of public thanksgiving, mourning or disaster proclaimed by the Governor or the President of the United States and replaces it with a provision giving the Superintendent of the Bureau of Banking the discretion to declare such a day a bank holiday. It requires that notice of an emergency closing of a financial institution be given to the Bureau of Banking. The amendment repeals the requirement that a financial institution publish a condition and income report in a newspaper and also authorizes bank officers to review certain lines of credit.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-28) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 510 **An Act to Extend the Duration of Workers' Compensation Health Benefit Pilot Projects** PUBLIC 36

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
CARLETON	OTP-AM	H-42

SUMMARY

This bill changes the repeal date of the statutory provision authorizing workers' compensation pilot projects from October 31, 1996 to January 1, 2001.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-42) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 515 **An Act Concerning the Return of Credit Card Receipts** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PERKINS	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill requires businesses honoring credit cards to furnish customers with a copy of the signed receipt after each transaction.

LD 522 **An Act to Restrict the Ability of Credit Card Companies to Charge Excessive Fees** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TREAT RAND ADAMS	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits credit card companies from contracting for additional fees on credit card accounts unless the fees are specifically authorized.

LD 527 An Act to Require Liability Insurance Carriers to Disclose to Claimants Limits of Liability and Policy Coverage Prior to Initiation of Suit ONTP

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

SUMMARY

This bill requires liability insurance carriers of a potential defendant to disclose liability policy limits to claimants prior to initiation of a personal injury lawsuit within 14 days of a written report. The bill also imposes a civil penalty of \$100 a day for each day an insurance carrier fails to provide the required information.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-100) is the minority report of the committee and adds a fiscal note to the bill. Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

LD 536 An Act to Require Insurers to Reimburse Insureds with Inborn Errors of Metabolism PUBLIC 369

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT		AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
BRENNAN	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-468
	OTP-AM	MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill requires all health insurance policies in the State to reimburse for the costs of metabolic formula and special modified low-protein food products ordered by a physician for persons with inborn errors of metabolism, like Phenylketonuria.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-468) is the majority report of the committee. The amendment replaces the original bill and requires all health insurance policies in the state to reimburse for the costs of metabolic formula and special modified low-protein food products prescribed by a physician for persons with inborn errors of metabolism. The amendment exempts accidental injury, specified disease, hospital indemnity, Medicare supplement, long-term care and other limited benefit health insurance policies. The amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause and has an effective date of January 1, 1996.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" (H-469) is the minority report and requires all health insurance policies in the State to reimburse for the costs of metabolic formula prescribed by a physician for persons with inborn errors of metabolism. The amendment exempts accidental injury, specified disease, hospital indemnity, Medicare supplement, long-term care and other limited benefit health insurance policies. The amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause and has an effective date of January 1, 1996. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill. Committee Amendment "B" was not adopted.