

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR

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

increasing the percentage of state payment for health insurance for retired teachers from 25% to 30%. The bill would have required General Fund appropriations of over \$1 million in this biennium. The bill was indefinitely postponed after failing to receive funding on the Appropriation Table.

LD 599

An Act to Reimburse Former Temporary Hearing Officers of the Workers' Compensation Board for Lapsed Vacation Time

VETO SUSTAINED

| SPONSOR(S) | COMMITTEE REPORT | | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| BEGLEY | OTP-AM | REP | S-88 |
| CHASE | ONTP | REP | |
| | OTP-AM | REP | |

SUMMARY

This bill would have required that former workers' compensation commissioners who worked as temporary hearing officers during 1993 be compensated for all vacation time accrued even if that amount exceeded the maximum amount payable to terminating State employees.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-88) would have added a requirement that those temporary hearing officers who were rehired as state employees by May 31, 1994 are also entitled to receive longevity pay and vacation accrual rates as if no break in service had occurred. The Committee amendment also added an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill. The Governor vetoed the bill on June 21, 1995. The Senate voted to override the Governor's veto the next day but the House sustained the veto on June 26, 1995.

LD 605

An Act to Require the State to Pay for Mediation Sessions

ONTP

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

SUMMARY

This bill would have restored state funding for mediation services provided by the State under the municipal public employees labor relations laws. The Committee amendment added a fiscal note and appropriation section to the bill.

LD 624

An Act Concerning Binding Arbitration

ONTP

| SPONSOR(S) | COMMITTEE REPORT | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ROTONDI | ONTP | |

SUMMARY

This bill would have removed the fact-finding procedures from the municipal public employees labor relations laws and would have changed the arbitration procedures so that the decision of the arbitration panel is binding on all issues. In a letter dated April 28, 1995, the Attorney General indicated that a similar bill, LD 537, would constitute a municipal mandate under Article IX, Section 21 of the Maine Constitution.