

# 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. 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:

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>CARRIED OVER</b>               | <i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>                          |
| <b>CON RES XXX</b>                | <i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i> |
| <b>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</b>  | <i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>           |
| <b>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</b>        | <i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>                       |
| <b>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</b>        | <i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>              |
| <b>EMERGENCY</b>                  | <i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>                 |
| <b>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</b> | <i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>                        |
| <b>FAILED ENACTMENT</b>           | <i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>                             |
| <b>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</b>   | <i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>           |
| <b>INDEF PP</b>                   | <i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>                                  |
| <b>ONTP</b>                       | <i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>                            |
| <b>P&amp;S XXX</b>                | <i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>               |
| <b>PUBLIC XXX</b>                 | <i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>                              |
| <b>RESOLVE XXX</b>                | <i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>                                 |
| <b>UNSIGNED</b>                   | <i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>                        |
| <b>VETO SUSTAINED</b>             | <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 676**      **An Act to Change the Deadline for Submitting Nomination  
Petitions for Independent Presidential Candidates**      **ONTP**

| <b>SPONSOR(S)</b> | <b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b> | <b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PERKINS           | ONTP                    |                           |

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have required the nomination petition for an independent presidential candidate to be filed by August 1st of the year of the election.

**LD 684**      **An Act to Amend the Laws Pertaining to Lobbyists**      **ONTP**

| <b>SPONSOR(S)</b> | <b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b> | <b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| AHEARNE           | ONTP                    |                           |

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have required lobbyists to wear blaze orange name tags and required the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to publish a directory of lobbyists. The bill would have also added parents and siblings to the definition of "immediate family".

**LD 717**      **An Act to Establish the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund**      **PUBLIC 494**

| <b>SPONSOR(S)</b> | <b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b> | <b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|                   | OTP-AM      MAJ         | H-279                     |
|                   | ONTP          MIN       |                           |

**SUMMARY**

This bill created the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund, funded by a new wildlife lottery game, to support fisheries and wildlife; acquisition and management of public lands, parks and public access areas; endangered and threatened species conservation projects; and natural resources law enforcement. The bill also established the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board to administer the fund.

The result of a citizen initiated petition, LD 717 could not be substantively amended by the committee.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-279) added a fiscal note.

**LD 723**      **Resolve, Authorizing Jacqueline M. Sorenson of Westbrook to  
Sue the State**      **ONTP**

| <b>SPONSOR(S)</b> | <b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b> | <b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ESTY              | ONTP                    |                           |

**SUMMARY**

This resolve would have authorized Jacqueline M. Sorenson, of Westbrook, to sue the State for damages resulting from the State's failure to prosecute the person who allegedly destroyed her home by fire.