

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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:

<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

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

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires that local agencies designated as subgrantees under the federal Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program by the Maine State Housing Authority must be able to administer the program at the lowest cost, as determined by a competitive bidding process.

**LD 754**      **An Act to Increase Access to Primary Care by Redefining the Practice of Advanced Nursing**      ONTP

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
BENOIT	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill sets up the category of advanced registered nurse practitioners which includes nurse midwives and nurse anesthetists. It requires collaboration with a physician. Nurse practitioners and nurse anesthetists are allowed to prescribe medication. There is a liability provision relative to the collaborating physician. A council is to make recommendations to the boards and the Legislature on all matters, including the drug formulary.

**LD 789**      **An Act Allowing Retailers to Limit the Number of Returnables They Accept**      ONTP

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
HATHAWAY	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

Currently dealers may limit the number of beverage containers that they will accept from one consumer to no less than 240.

This bill limits the number of returnable beverage containers that a retailer must accept from one consumer to 24 containers.

**LD 800**      **An Act to Amend the Laws Related to Optometry**      PUBLIC 439

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>		<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
CAMERON	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-534
	OTP-AM	MIN	H-558    CAMERON
			S-357    AMERO

**SUMMARY**

Current law prohibits the use of surgery, laser or other invasive techniques for care of the eyes by optometrists. This bill changes that prohibition to include invasive surgery only.

With special education, current law allows the use of ocular topical pharmaceutical agents for the treatment of eye conditions or diseases other than glaucoma, except for the use of controlled substances,