

# 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

**Staff:**

Roy Lenardson, Legislative Analyst  
David C. Elliott, Principal Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207)287-1670

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\*Denotes Chair



**Maine State Legislature  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

State House Station 13, Augusta, Maine 04333  
Telephone (207) 287-1670  
Telecopier (207) 287-1275

**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

**LD 749 An Act to Prohibit Any State or Independent Agency  
from Establishing Private Accounts**

PUBLIC 316

**SPONSOR(S)**  
BUTLAND

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-454 DAGGETT  
S-151

**SUMMARY**

This bill creates a separate section for the establishment of conference fee accounts and makes improper expenditures from these accounts punishable under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 362.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-151) replaces section 2 of the bill. The amendment creates a new Class E crime and clarifies restrictions on the use of fees. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-454) requires a state agency that conducts a conference, workshop or seminar for which fees are charged to establish an account for the sole purpose of receiving and expending these fees for the operation of the conference, workshop or seminar. The amendment provides that any item, equipment or other property purchased from the capital expenditures category of a conference fee account is state property.

**LD 788 An Act to Amend the Purchasing Laws**

PUBLIC 119

**SPONSOR(S)**  
AMERO

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill allows the Governor to assign approval of emergency purchases to appropriate officials. The bill also allows for sole-source procurement in circumstances where the cost of the competitive bid process creates hardship and delay to affected agencies.

**LD 798 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution  
of Maine to Provide Legislative Review of Agency  
Rulemaking**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
MARTIN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution to allow the Legislature or a committee of the Legislature to disapprove agency rules adopted pursuant to a legislative delegation of authority.

**LD 861 An Act to Establish the Interim Office on Volunteerism**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
SAVAGE

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill establishes the Interim Office on Volunteerism within the Executive Department and directs the Governor to designate a state volunteer organization as that office. Reimbursement and expenses are not authorized for the Interim Office on Volunteerism and the office is subject to a sunset provision that is effective September 1, 1997.