

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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**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

**LD 1103 Resolve, Authorizing Glen Greenhalgh to Sue the State of
Maine and the Department of Human Services**

DIED BETWEEN
BODIES

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

SUMMARY

This resolve would have authorized Glenn Greenhalgh to sue the State and individual past and present employees of the Department of Human Services who are covered by a liability insurance policy or policies. The resolve would have authorized Glenn Greenhalgh to recover damages up to \$750,000 arising from erroneous claims of child abuse and the separation from his children by the department and its employees.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-355) would have removed the authorization to sue individual past or present employees of the State and placed a cap of \$75,000 on the award of damages. The amendment would have also added a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1115 An Act to Create a Voluntary Campaign Spending Law

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
GERRY	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have allowed candidates for state or federal office to limit voluntarily the amount of money they spend on a campaign to a maximum of 50¢ per registered voter.

**LD 1161 An Act Regarding the Granting of Hotel Liquor Licenses to
Establishments**

PUBLIC 270
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
VIGUE	OTP-AM	H-330

SUMMARY

This bill allowed hotels on islands that are part of mainland municipalities to have the island population count as a true measure of population, rather than including the mainland population.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-330) corrected existing language to conform with the 1993 statutory change that moved the responsibility of liquor licensure to the Bureau of Liquor Enforcement; clarified that minors are excluded from hotel lounges that serve alcoholic beverages but not other function rooms; and kept the original provision of the bill that based the formula for granting a hotel liquor license on the population of the island, not the larger mainland municipality of which it was a part. It also added a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 1212 An Act to Eliminate State Participation in the Retail
Liquor Business**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
BEGLEY	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have eliminated state and agency liquor stores, but would have continued the state regulation of liquor stores operated by private persons and the state regulation of wholesaling of liquor.