

# 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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**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

3. Currently an applicant for certification as a public accountant or certified public accountant who passes 2 or more parts of the required examination is not required to retake these parts and the accounting practice part is considered 2 parts. This amendment eliminates the provision that allows the accounting practice part of the examination to be considered 2 parts.
4. It removes detail concerning the examination required for certification as a public accountant and, instead, specifies that the examination must be the one prepared by the National Society of Public Accountants or any other examination approved by the board.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-503) corrects format and internal reference problems whose origin was in the original amendment to this law prior to this session.

**LD 1345      Resolve, to Require a Review of the Beverage Container  
Deposit Laws**

RESOLVE 52

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
CARLETON	OTP-AM	H-450 H-465    ROWE S-397    HANLEY

**SUMMARY**

This bill amends the law regarding returnable beverage containers to define 3rd-party pickup agents and impose on them the same requirements imposed on the distributors or manufacturers the agents represent. This bill also clarifies the duties of dealers and redemption centers regarding the sorting of containers for return to distributors or 3rd-party pickup agents.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-450) deletes the bill and instead requires a task force to study the problems that the expansion of the beverage container laws has appeared to create in the implementation of these laws.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-465) makes a technical correction to the fiscal note.

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-956) reduces the number of authorized meetings from 5 to 3 and adjusts the General Fund appropriation proportionately.

**LD 1353      Resolve, to Determine the Effectiveness of Economic  
Development Incentives in Maine**

RESOLVE 26  
EMERGENCY

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
RAND TUTTLE	OTP-AM	S-245

**SUMMARY**

This resolve creates the Commission on the Effectiveness of Economic Development Incentives in Maine to study the use of past and proposed tax credits, tax increment financing and other economic development incentives, to develop legislation ensuring accountability to the public and provision of public benefits by business receiving these incentives and to report back to the Legislature before February 16, 1996.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-245) requires the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Finance Authority of Maine to undertake a study of the effectiveness of past business incentives and the public's return on its investment in each of these incentives. The Department of Economic and Community Development and the Finance Authority of Maine are required to report back to the Legislature on or before February 16, 1996 with recommendations for changes necessary to improve the effectiveness and

return on investment for business financial incentives. The amendment eliminates the provision for holding businesses accountable for incentives provided to them.

**LD 1354 An Act to Modify the Electricians' Examining Board Law**

PUBLIC 325

**SPONSOR(S)**  
HALL

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
S-244

**SUMMARY**

This bill amends the definitions of helper electrician, journeyman-in-training, journeyman electrician, supervisor, limited electrician and master electrician. The definition of master electrician in current law includes the word "corporation," which has created some confusion as to whether a corporation license is required. The bill removes the word "corporation" from the definition of master electrician and separately defines an electrical company as a person in the business of making electrical installations who employs individuals in that business.

The bill removes the exemption that currently allows 2-family home construction to be exempt from permits. By removing the exemption it would require electrical inspections on new construction of a 2-family dwelling to ensure compliance with the requirements set by the National Electrical Code.

The bill allows complaints to be filed orally with state electrical inspectors if imminent danger is suspected.

The bill allows complaints to be filed with the Division of Licensing and Enforcement, Case Compliance Coordinator instead of the executive secretary to conform with current procedures.

The bill eliminates language that no longer applies. Motion picture projectionists are no longer licensed with the board.

The bill increases the required hours of electrical education to satisfy the minimum competence levels for safe practice by limited licensees. It also clarifies language regarding qualifications for licensure as a limited electrician in low energy.

This bill clarifies that an inactive license must be renewed each licensing cycle.

Also see LD 1463.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-244) makes it clear that an electrical company license is required for a person who employs licensed electricians. There are no qualifications or fees for this license.

The amendment removes the provision of the bill that deletes references to corporation licenses from the definition of master electrician.

**LD 1357 An Act to Create the Propane and Natural Gas Professional Act of 1995**

PUBLIC 389

**SPONSOR(S)**  
HARRIMAN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
S-302

**SUMMARY**

This bill establishes the Propane and Natural Gas Licensing Board to regulate those who install and maintain propane and natural gas equipment and sets standards for the proper installation of the equipment. The board also licenses plant operators and dispensing stations and their operators.

**26 Business and Economic Development**