

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

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT		AMENDMENTS ADOPTED	
NADEAU	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-477	
	OTP-AM	MIN	H-614	GAMACHE
			S-389	HANLEY

SUMMARY

This resolve established the Task Force on Alcoholic Beverage Sales to study issues relating to closure of state-operated liquor stores.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-477) removed the language in the bill that required the study task force to specifically study a 3rd discount liquor store in Bangor and increased the membership of the study task force from 9 to 11. The increase was accomplished by replacing the membership of the Director of the Division of Financial and Personnel Services of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services with a member who was a state employee currently working at a state-operated liquor store and by increasing the number of members from the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs from 2 to 4. The amendment also added a fiscal note to the resolve.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-614) changed the appointing authority of the 4 members of the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs from the chairs of the committee to 2 by the President of the Senate and 2 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-389) removed the allocation section from the resolve, which prevented the decrease of General Fund revenue. It also replaced the fiscal note.

Minority COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" (H-478) would have incorporated COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" and increased the task force membership to 15 by:

1. Adding a member from a nonprofit social service organization with a long history of interest and active participation in alcohol-related matters; and
2. Adding 3 members who represent 3 business organizations that have a direct interest in the alcohol business.

The amendment would have also added a fiscal note. (Not adopted)

LD 1519 Resolve, to Allow Jose Gonzales to Bring an Action Against the StateDIED BETWEEN
BODIES

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

SUMMARY

This resolve would have authorized Jose Gonzales to sue the State for the damages that he allegedly suffered in connection with the suspension of his business license from April 30, 1992 to September 22, 1992 by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Manufactured Housing Board. The Committee Amendment would have provided that the \$300,000 limit on damages contained in the Maine Tort Claims Act applies to the action brought under this resolve.