

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**STATE OF MAINE  
117TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**JUNE 1996**

***MEMBERS:***

*Sen. Jane A. Amero, Chair*

*Sen. David L. Carpenter*

*Sen. Susan W. Longley*

*Rep. Beverly C. Daggett, Chair*

*Rep. Douglas J. Ahearne*

*Rep. William Lemke*

*Rep. Jane W. Saxl*

*Rep. Jon M. Rosebush*

*Rep. Jule-Marie Robichaud*

*Rep. Theone F. Look*

*Rep. Priscilla Lane*

*Rep. Christine R. Savage*

*Rep. Belinda A. Gerry*

***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*



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

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013  
 Telephone: (207) 287-1670  
 Fax: (207) 287-1275

**ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**June 1996**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the 15 Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature staffed by this office. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill, committee amendments and other relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken on the bill. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized alphabetically by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills.

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are 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 finally passed 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>

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is July 4, 1996.

**LD 1872      Resolve, to Secure a Release of Property from the State**

RESOLVE 81

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCORMICK SHIAH	OTP-AM	S-536

LD 1872 proposed to authorize the release of the State's interest in a parcel of land that escheated to the State when the owner died intestate, with no known heirs, in 1960. Subsequently, in 1965, the property was purchased by the Arlt family from the Town of Richmond. However, there has never been any legislative action taken regarding the transfer of this property. Thus, this resolve is necessary to quiet title to the property.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-536)** proposed to replace the resolve and establish a dollar amount, not to exceed \$12,240, for the conveyance of certain parcels of land situated in the Town of Richmond. The amendment also proposed to clarify the tax map lots of the property and adds a fiscal note to the resolve.

*Enacted law summary*

Resolve 1995, chapter 81 authorizes the conveyance of the State's interest in certain parcels of land in Richmond for not more than \$72,240. The land that escheated to the State when the owner died intestate, with no known heirs, in 1960.

**LD 1878      Resolve, to Amend the 1995 Kennebec County Budget**

RESOLVE 77

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MADORE		

LD 1878, which was engrossed without reference to committee, proposed to amend last year's budget resolve for Kennebec County to account for reimbursements for housing state and federal prisoners that exceeded budgeted amounts and for associated costs that also exceeded budgeted amounts. The amendment restores balance in the county budget and makes funds available to pay the costs incurred. It does not affect the amount raised by taxation.

*Enacted law summary*

Resolve 1995, chapter 77 amends the 1995 Kennebec County budget to account for reimbursements to the county for housing state and federal prisoners that exceeded budgeted amounts and for associated costs that also exceeded budget amounts.

**LD 1881      Resolve, for Laying the County Taxes and Authorizing Expenditures of Kennebec County for the Year 1996**

RESOLVE 82  
EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP	

LD 1881 proposed to authorize the laying of the county taxes and expenditures of Kennebec County government for the year 1996.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 1995, chapter 82 authorizes the laying of county taxes and expenditures of Kennebec County government for the year 1996 and was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 10, 1996.

**LD 1883**      **Resolve, for Laying the County Taxes and Authorizing Expenditures of Androscoggin County for the Year 1996**      RESOLVE 83 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)                      Committee Report                      Amendments Adopted  
    OTP    S-540

LD 1883 proposed to authorize the laying of the county taxes and expenditures of Androscoggin County government for the year 1996.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-540)** proposed to add a line that was inadvertently omitted from the resolve and add a fiscal note to the resolve.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 1995, chapter 83 authorizes the laying of county taxes and expenditures of Androscoggin County government for the year 1996 and was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 10, 1996.

**LD 1884**      **An Act to Reduce Costs for Municipalities**      PUBLIC 664 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)                      Committee Report                      Amendments Adopted

LD 1884, which was engrossed without reference to committee, proposed to reduce costs for municipalities in the following ways.

1. Require that notice of public hearings be sent by certified mail.
2. The First Regular Session of the 117th Legislature created a limited exemption from the requirement to perfect municipal deposits for short-term deposit or "sweep" accounts. The term of the exemption is 72 hours, but because on 3-day holiday weekends the account terms will not change for time periods greater than 72 hours, the term of the exemption must be changed to 96 hours in order to gain the benefit from the exemption.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law chapter 664 reduces costs for municipalities by authorizing notice of public hearings to be sent by certified mail (instead of registered mail) and by extending the exemption for short-term municipal deposits or "sweep" accounts from 72 to 96 hours. The law was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 10, 1996.