

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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

JUNE 1996

MEMBERS:

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Sen. David L. Carpenter

Sen. Susan W. Longley

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Staff:

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**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 & 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 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 1885 An Act Regarding the State Government Computer System

PUBLIC 703
EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)
GWADOSKY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1885, which was engrossed without reference to committee, addresses a problem with the current law cited by the office of the Attorney General, in a memorandum dated August 11, 1995. The bill proposed to prohibit the use of the state computer system to advocate for the election or defeat of any elected municipal, county or state candidate, including leadership positions, any constitutional officers or federal representatives. The bill also proposed to clarify that any document created or stored on a State Government computer system must be made available in compliance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, chapter 13, the Maine Freedom of Access Law.

Enacted law summary

Public Law chapter 703 prohibits the use of the state computer system to advocate for the election or defeat of any elected municipal, county or state candidate and clarifies that any document created or stored on a State Government computer system must be made available in compliance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, chapter 13, the Maine Freedom of Access Law. The law was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 11, 1996.

**LD 1886 An Act to Reduce the Notice and Hearing Requirements Imposed
on Quasi-municipal Corporations and Districts**

PUBLIC 655

Sponsor(s)
MURPHY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1886, which was engrossed without reference, proposed to require that quasi-municipal corporations or districts must publish notice at least 17 days, but not more than 24 days, before a meeting at which a regulation will be adopted or a program expanded.

Enacted law summary

Public Law chapter 655 requires that quasi-municipal corporations or districts must publish notice at least 17 days, but not more than 24 days, before a meeting at which a regulation will be adopted or a program expanded.

LD 1887 An Act to Revise the Salaries of Certain County Officers

PUBLIC 701
EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted
S-551 (SA)

LD 1887 proposed to correct the salaries of certain county officers in Piscataquis County, retroactive to January 1, 1995 and establish the 1996 salaries for county officers in Androscoggin, Kennebec, Penobscot and Piscataquis counties.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-551) proposed to correct a clerical error.

Enacted law summary

Public Law chapter 701 establishes the 1996 salaries for county officers in Androscoggin, Kennebec, Penobscot and Piscataquis counties and was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 11, 1996.