

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR**

JULY 1997

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MEMBERS:

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Sen. Sharon Anglin Treat
Sen. S. Peter Mills*

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Maine State Legislature

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**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 1997**

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. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

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:

- CARRIED OVER*.....*Bill carried over to Second Regular Session*
- CON RES XXX*.....*Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses*
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*.....*Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died*
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*.....*House & Senate disagree; bill died*
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....*One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill*
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*.....*Action incomplete when session ended; bill died*
- EMERGENCY*.....*Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days*
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....*Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote*
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....*Bill failed to get majority vote*
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*.....*Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote*
- INDEF PP*.....*Bill Indefinitely Postponed*
- ONTP*.....*Ought Not To Pass report accepted*
- OTP ND*.....*Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft*
- OTP ND/NT*.....*Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title*
- P&S XXX*.....*Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*
- PUBLIC XXX*.....*Chapter # of enacted Public Law*
- RESOLVE XXX*.....*Chapter # of finally passed Resolve*
- UNSIGNED*.....*Bill held by Governor*
- VETO SUSTAINED*.....*Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto*

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 26, 1997 and September 19, 1997 for the First Special Session.

David E. Boulter, Director

Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

Joint Standing Committee on Labor

LD 49

An Act to Exempt Contract Dance Instructors and National Service Volunteers from the Unemployment Tax

**PUBLIC 431
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)
JOYCE

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-525 HATCH

LD 49 proposed to exempt from the definition of "employment" for unemployment compensation purposes dance instructors who provide instruction to students of a dance studio under the terms of a contract.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-483), which was not adopted, proposed additional criteria that contract dance instructors must meet in order to qualify for the exception to the definition of employment for unemployment compensation purposes.

House Amendment "A" (H-525) proposed the same additional criteria contained in the committee amendment and also proposed to provide that national service volunteers serving in Maine projects or programs, e.g., AmeriCorps*USA and AmeriCorps*VISTA, and receiving stipends are not employees under state law. This amendment also proposed to add an emergency preamble to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 431 exempts from the definition of "employment" for unemployment compensation purposes dance instructors who provide instruction to students of a dance studio under the terms of a contract and meet other specified criteria. This law also provides that national service volunteers serving in Maine projects or programs, e.g., AmeriCorps*USA and AmeriCorps*VISTA, and receiving stipends are not employees under state law. Chapter 431 was enacted as an emergency measure effective on June 10, 1997.

LD 60

An Act to Provide for the Collection of Data Relating to the Risks from Exposure to Chemicals in the Workplace

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
MERES

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 60 proposed to require the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards to collect and compile data regarding the level of chemical exposures in industrial settings and various service sector businesses. The bill also would have required the Bureau of Labor Standards to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor by November 15, 1998 on the collection of these data.