

# 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  
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**JULY 1997**

**MEMBERS:**

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*Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait*

*Sen. James D. Libby*

*Rep. Douglas J. Ahearne, Chair*

*Rep. William Lemke*

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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](http://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:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i> .....	<i>Bill carried over to Second Regular 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 IN CONCURRENCE</i> .....	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</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/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</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>OTP ND</i> .....	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>OTP ND/NT</i> .....	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</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>Bill held by Governor</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 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

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1997, chapter 60 raises the fine for improperly parking in a handicapped parking space from \$50 to \$100.

**LD 156**

**An Act to Amend the Charter of the Loring Development Authority as It Pertains to Immunity of the Authority**

**PUBLIC 71  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KIEFFER ROWE	OTP-AM	S-63

LD 156 proposed to broaden the limitations of liability for the board members and employees of the Loring Development Authority.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-63)** replaced the original bill and added to the existing language, which retained the provision of the Maine Tort Claims Act, while still providing a broadening of the limitation of liability for board members and employees of the Loring Development Authority.

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1997, chapter 71 expands the limitations of liability for a board member or an employee of the Loring Development Authority. Chapter 71 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 10, 1997.

**LD 157**

**An Act to Impose a Surcharge on Documents Recorded in a Registry of Deeds to Fund Preservation of Registry Documents**

**PUBLIC 503**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAGGETT	OTP-AM A OTP-AM B ONTP C	S-360 MICHAUD S-94

LD 157 proposed to establish a surcharge of \$3 for documents recorded in a registry of deeds. The surcharge would be used to fund the restoration, re-creation and preservation of records in the offices of registers of deeds.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-93)**, the majority committee amendment, proposed to exempt documents filed by state agencies and municipalities from that requirement, repeals the surcharge established in the bill on January 1, 2002 and adds a mandate preamble and a fiscal note to the bill. This amendment was not adopted.

**Committee Amendment "B" (S-94)**, the minority amendment, proposed to make imposition of the surcharge optional with the county, exempt documents filed by municipalities from the surcharge if it is imposed, repeal any surcharge imposed by the bill on January 1, 2002 and add an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

**Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "B" (S-360)** proposed to exempt agencies of State