

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
LEGAL AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

JULY 1997

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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:

| | |
|---|--|
| <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 & 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&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>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

LD 280

An Act Regarding Opening Hours of Voting Places

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| WINN | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 280 proposed to require that voting places be opened no later than 8 a.m. for presidential and gubernatorial elections.

LD 312

An Act to Remove Instant Lottery Ticket Vending Machines

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KERR | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 312 proposed to remove the authority of the State Lottery Commission to place vending machines for the sale of instant lottery tickets.

LD 339

An Act to Establish Maine as a Sponsor of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery

P & S 49

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DAVIDSON | OTP-AM | H-171 S-352 MICHAUD |

LD 339 proposed a General Fund appropriation to assist in the construction of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-171) raised the appropriation for the construction of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery from \$5,000 to \$8,200. The \$8,200 represented the number of women veterans in the State, appropriating \$1 per woman veteran.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-352) reduced the appropriation to \$5,000.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 39 provides a General Fund appropriation of \$5,000 to assist in the construction of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.