

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
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

JULY 1997

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Sen. William B. O'Gara
Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell*

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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

LD 356**An Act to Require Fire and Rescue Departments to Reimburse Costs of Training**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCALEVEY	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 356 proposed to provide for the reimbursement of certain firefighting or rescue training costs for persons who were hired by more than one governmental entity.

LD 359**Resolve, to Establish a Study Group to Assess the Needs of the Office of the State Fire Marshal and Ensure Prompt, Effective Response to the Public's Fire Safety Needs****RESOLVE 10**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCALEVEY AMERO	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-21
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LD 359 proposed to establish a study group to review and consider improvements to the role of the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-21) proposed to change the membership of the study group in 2 ways.

1. It proposed that one member be a certified firefighter, rather than a representative of a professional firefighters' union.
2. It proposed that the representative from the fire insurance industry be appointed by the Governor, rather than by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House.

This amendment also proposed to change the date that the study group would have to submit its report to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice from January 1, 1998 to March 1, 1998.

Finally, this amendment proposed to delete the provision authorizing the study group to seek, accept and expend private or public funds, and it proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Resolves 1997, chapter 10 establishes a study group to review and consider improvements to the role of the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The study group will look at how that office can become more responsive to and provide better service for the public. The study group shall report its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice by March 1, 1998.