

# 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  
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

JULY 1997

**MEMBERS:**

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*Sen. Anne M. Rand*

*Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon*

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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](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:

- 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 330**

**Resolve, to Implement the Recommendations of the Commission to Study Poverty Among Working Parents with Regard to Microenterprise Needs**

**RESOLVE 23**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POVICH	OTP MAJ	
MILLS	ONTP MIN	

LD 330 proposed to require the Department of Economic and Community Development to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development matters by October 1, 1997 on the needs of entrepreneurship in the State, microloans, microenterprise and small business needs.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 1997, chapter 23 requires the Department of Economic and Community Development to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development matters by October 1, 1997 on the needs of entrepreneurship in the State, microloans, microenterprise and small business needs.

**LD 390**

**An Act Requiring Masonry Work to Comply with State and Local Building and Fire Codes**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL B	ONTP	

LD 390 proposed to require that masonry work comply with applicable state and local building and fire codes. The committee acknowledged the safety concerns brought forward by the bill and assigned a subcommittee to address the issue. The subcommittee discussed existing requirements for chimney and fireplace installation and the need for additional state laws versus education on National Fire Protection Association code requirements. Under current law, 25 MRSA §2465, no person may install any vent or solid fuel burning appliance unless in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association Code #211, "The Standards for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents and Solid Fuel Burning Appliances." The consensus was that by raising awareness and educating the individuals doing installations promotion of professionalism and accountability of the profession would grow. An agreement was reached that rather than pass a law, a more effective means of addressing this education issue would be to offer a seminar. The seminar would be a joint effort between the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation with assistance from the State Fire Marshall's Office to be scheduled for the fall of 1997.

**LD 421**

**An Act to Grandfather Certain Practicing Naturopathic Doctors**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RAND	ONTP	