

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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Sen. Richard J. Carey
Sen. Norman K. Ferguson, Jr.***

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Rep. Duane J. Belanger***



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 424

Resolve, Recognizing the Theta Chi Building Association as a Nonprofit Corporation

RESOLVE 27

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TREAT	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-28

LD 424 proposed to authorize the Board of Directors of the Theta Chi Building Association to file with the Secretary of State as a nonprofit corporation and be recognized as a nonprofit corporation for all purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 13-B, retroactively to January 1, 1997.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-28) proposed to replace the resolve. It clarifies the intent of the resolve by allowing the Theta Chi Building Association, which is currently a business corporation filed pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 13-A, to be changed to and recognized as a nonprofit corporation for all purposes under Title 13-B. The amendment retains the corporation's original filing date of August 15, 1907. This change takes effect retroactively to January 1, 1997.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 27 allows the Theta Chi Building Association, which is currently a business corporation filed pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 13-A, to be changed to and recognized as a nonprofit corporation for all purposes under Title 13-B, retaining the corporation's original filing date of August 15, 1907.

LD 440

An Act to Require Responsibility of the Employers of Persons who Collect Signatures

PUBLIC 61

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TOWNSEND KILKELLY	OTP	

Current law prohibits a petition circulator from accepting compensation based on the number of signatures collected. LD 440 instead proposed to prohibit a person from paying the circulator of a petition on the basis of the number of signatures collected.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 61 amends the law prohibiting a person circulating a petition from accepting compensation based on the number of signatures collected to instead prohibit a person from paying compensation on that basis.