

# 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

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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 567 proposed to require all business assistance subsidies provided by the Department of Economic and Community Development to be directed to employers that pay at least \$11.54 per hour in direct compensation.

**LD 573**                      **An Act to Conform the Maine Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to Federal Law**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 573 proposed to conform Maine's Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to a recent amendment to the federal Fair Debt Collections Practices Act.

**LD 584**                      **An Act to Repeal the Laws Regulating Naturopathic Practitioners**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 584 proposed to amend the laws governing the Board of Complementary Health Care Providers to eliminate the provisions regulating the practice of naturopathic medicine.

**LD 597**                      **An Act to Amend the Statutes Pertaining to Emergency Medical Services**                      **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VIGUE CAREY		

LD 597 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature. This bill proposes to amend the current laws concerning emergency medical services by:

1. Changing the reference to the course that a basic emergency medical technician must complete from one defined by the United States Department of Transportation to one defined by Maine Emergency Medical Services;
2. Expanding the definition of emergency medical services' person;
3. Expanding the monitoring power of the Emergency Medical Services' Board to include other services provided by its licensees and to define treatments or services that fall within the scope of the practice of an emergency medical services person;
4. Expanding the membership of the Emergency Medical Services' Board by three persons; and

5. Listing the criminal convictions that result in denial, suspension or revocation of an emergency medical services license.

**LD 604**                      **An Act to Amend the Maine Veterinary Practice Act of 1975**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 604 proposed to amend current law to include as recognized veterinary medicine specialties those alternative medical practices approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association. The bill also proposed to allow animal health assistants to read or interpret certain laboratory tests designated by the Maine State Board of Veterinary Medicine and allow persons to become veterinary technicians without taking college courses if they have completed an equivalent program approved by the board and passed an examination prescribed by the board. The provisions of this bill were subsequently incorporated into the committee amendment to LD 1468 (Public Law 1997, chapter 421).

**LD 678**                      **An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Auctioneers**                      **PUBLIC 183**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARRIMAN	OTP-AM	S-107

LD 678 proposed to repeal the "small auctioneer" free license category.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-107)** added a fiscal note to the bill.

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1997, chapter 183 repeals the "small auctioneer" free license category.

**LD 686**                      **An Act to Streamline the Registration Process for Drug Outlets, Manufacturers and Wholesalers**                      **ONTP**

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

Current law requires drug outlets, manufacturers and wholesalers to report changes in ownership or control of such an entity as well as changes in the officers of the corporation. This bill proposed to clarify that changes in the members of the board of directors, exclusive of the officers, need not be reported.