

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. Bruce W. MacKinnon

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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 736

An Act to Abolish the Economic Development and Business Assistance Coordinating Council

PUBLIC 48

Sponsor(s)
ROWE

Committee Report
OTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 736 proposed to abolish the Economic Development and Business Assistance Coordinating Council. The council was created in 1992 but never received state funding. The council is no longer necessary in light of the recent establishment of a similar economic development organization and the formation of an economic development strategic plan at the state level.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 48 abolishes the Economic Development and Business Assistance Coordinating Council. The council was created in 1992 but never received state funding. The Council is no longer necessary in light of the recent establishment of a similar economic development organization and the formation of an economic development strategic plan at the state level.

LD 737

An Act to Create a Helper Registration Category, to Exempt Certain Persons from Licensure under the Propane and Natural Gas Act and to Eliminate the Tagging Requirement

PUBLIC 270

Sponsor(s)
FARNSWORTH

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-358

LD 737 proposed to establish a propane and natural gas apprentice registration program under the Propane and Natural Gas Act to allow a technician to hire a helper to assist in installations and maintenance of propane and natural gas equipment. This bill also proposed to exempt from licensure highway transport drivers who deliver propane to bulk plants or industrial customers.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-358) proposed to change all references to "apprentice" to "helper." This amendment would also add the words "on-site" to ensure that all work performed by a helper on-site is done under the direct and continuous supervision of a licensed individual. This amendment would repeal the tagging requirement for the installation of propane and natural gas equipment.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 270 establishes a propane and natural gas helper category under the Propane and Natural Gas Act to allow a technician to hire a helper to assist in installations and maintenance of propane and natural gas equipment. All work performed by a helper on-site must be done under the direct and continuous supervision of a licensed individual. Chapter 270 exempts from licensure highway transport drivers who deliver propane to bulk plants or industrial customers. Chapter 270 also repeals the tagging requirement for the installation of propane and natural gas equipment.