

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
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

JULY 1997

MEMBERS:

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Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait

Sen. James D. Libby

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Rep. William Lemke

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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 777

Resolve, to Establish a Board to Review State Spending and Budget Procedures

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
AHEARNE

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 777 proposed to establish the State Budget Board to review state spending and budgeting procedures and report back to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 781

An Act to Provide Legislators with the Same Health Benefits as State Employees

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
HATCH
CATHCART

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 781 proposed to provide Legislators with the same percentage of dependent coverage as other state employees. The bill also proposed to require the retirement system to pay the costs of basic life insurance, as is the current policy for other state employees.

LD 794

An Act to Ensure Ethical Conduct in the Office of Treasurer of State

DIED BETWEEN BODIES

Sponsor(s)
SMALL

Committee Report
OTP-AM A
ONTP B
OTP C
OTP-AM D

Amendments Adopted

LD 794 proposed to prohibit the Treasurer of State from accepting gifts or soliciting campaign contributions from any person or organization with whom the Treasurer of State conducts business as part of the duties of the office.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-221) replaced the bill. It would have provided that the Treasurer of State may not accept gifts or solicit campaign contributions from a person who provides investment services of a type that the Treasurer of State might be expected to procure for the State as part of the duties of the office of the Treasurer of State.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-222), a minority report of the committee, proposed to extend the same prohibition against accepting gifts or soliciting campaign contributions from certain persons to the Secretary of State, Attorney General and State Auditor.