

# 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*

*Rep. Marc J. Vigue, Chair*

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**Staff:**

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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 768**

**An Act to Clarify the Right of a Real Estate Broker to a Lien on Land, Improvements or Structures**

**PUBLIC 264**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DEXTER	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-323

LD 768 proposed to clarify the right of a real estate broker to a lien on land, improvements or structures to secure payment for services rendered in selling or leasing the land, improvements or structures.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-323)** was the majority report of the committee. It proposed to strike reference to real estate broker action associated with leasing any interest in land, improvements or structures as subject to right of placing a lien. This proposal would be consistent with the intent of the original law passed in 1993 to include real estate brokers in this lien provision.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1997, chapter 264 clarifies the right of a real estate broker to a lien on land, improvements or structures to secure payment for services rendered in selling the land, improvements or structures.

**LD 841**

**An Act to Amend the Dental Licensure Laws to Authorize Special Permits for Instruction in Dentistry and to Identify and Rehabilitate Impaired Dentists**

**PUBLIC 107**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMERON JENKINS	OTP-AM	H-127

LD 841 proposed to enable Maine dentists to establish a professional review committee to develop and implement a comprehensive therapeutic program to address the needs of dentists who have or who may develop impairments such as alcohol abuse, psychoactive drug abuse or other dependency interfering with their practices. This bill would also amend the Dental Practice Act to allow the Board of Dental Examiners to issue limited licenses to certain instructors in board-approved continuing education programs within the State. Instruction in specialized areas may require the practice of dentistry, as defined by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 1081, by persons who are not licensed in Maine but whose credentials otherwise make them uniquely qualified to educate Maine practitioners in certain techniques.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-127)** proposed to clarify that the professional review committee would be made up of either physicians, dentists or both as circumstances warrant. This amendment proposed to add language to include all professionals licensed with the Board of Dental Examiners in provisions enabling affected individuals to obtain help with a drug or alcohol dependency issue.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1997, chapter 107 enables Maine dentists to establish a professional review committee to develop and implement a comprehensive therapeutic program to address the needs of all professionals licensed with the Board of

Dental Examiners who have or who may develop impairments such as alcohol abuse, psychoactive drug abuse or other dependency interfering with their practices. The professional review committee would be made up of either physicians, dentists or both as circumstances warrant.

Chapter 107 allows the Board of Dental Examiners to issue limited licenses to certain instructors in board-approved continuing education programs within the State. Instruction in specialized areas may require the practice of dentistry, as defined by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 1081, by persons who are not licensed in Maine but whose credentials otherwise make them uniquely qualified to educate Maine practitioners in certain techniques.

**LD 842**                      **An Act to Amend the Osteopathic Licensure Laws to Clarify the Appropriate Degree Required for Licensure**                      **PUBLIC 50**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CAMERON		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 842 proposed to amend the osteopathic licensure laws to clarify that the degree required for licensure is one conferred by a school or college of osteopathic medicine approved by the American Osteopathic Association.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1997, chapter 50 amends the osteopathic licensure laws to clarify that the degree required for licensure is one conferred by a school or college of osteopathic medicine approved by the American Osteopathic Association.

**LD 891**                      **Resolve, to Authorize and Fund an Independent Study of the Economic Impacts of Increased Natural Gas Availability and Use in the State**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KILKELLY MADORE		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 891 proposed to require the State Planning Office to hire an independent consultant to conduct a study of the economic consequences of increased natural gas use in Maine.

**LD 904**                      **An Act to Clarify the Audit Requirement of the Maine State Housing Authority**                      **PUBLIC 125  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> ROWE DONNELLY		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-141
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