

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
LABOR**

JULY 1997

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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
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LD 879**An Act to Establish Occupational Health and Safety Standards for Operators of Video Display Terminals****ONTP**Sponsor(s)
RANDCommittee Report
ONTPAmendments Adopted

LD 879 proposed to require employers to maintain a number of workplace standards with respect to video display terminals. It would have required an employer to locate video display terminals in such a way as to reduce glare on the video display screen caused by reflected light. If the glare continued to be unacceptable to the operator, the employer would have been required to take additional steps to limit glare. The bill proposed to require employers to provide swivel chairs for operators, unless the operator specifically declined such a chair, and would have required employers to provide paid leave for vision examinations and flexible work breaks for video display terminal operators. The bill also proposed enforcement and penalty provisions.

LD 901**An Act to Allow Minors under 16 Years of Age to Work at Certain Commercial Places of Amusement****PUBLIC 353
EMERGENCY**Sponsor(s)
KERR
PENDLETON PCommittee Report
OTP-AMAmendments Adopted
H-518

LD 901 proposed to allow minors who are 15 years of age or older to work at games of skill at commercial places of amusement.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-518) proposed to allow minors under 16 years of age to work in fixed-location commercial places of amusement, except they may not work at games of chance or in hazardous occupations. The amendment would have prohibited minors under 16 from working in conjunction with an amusement, game or show that allows or conducts betting.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 353 allows minors under 16 years of age to work in fixed-location commercial places of amusement, except they may not work at games of chance or in hazardous occupations. Minors under 16 years of age are also prohibited from working in conjunction with an amusement, game or show that allows or conducts betting. Chapter 353 was enacted as an emergency measure effective on May 31, 1997.

LD 909**An Act to Establish Mandatory Drug and Alcohol Testing of Emergency Vehicle Operators****ONTP**Sponsor(s)
LOVETT
PENDLETON PCommittee Report
ONTPAmendments Adopted