

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

Staff:

*Lisa C. Copenhaver, Legislative Analyst
Thomas H. Eyman, Legislative Analyst
David C. Elliott, Principal Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

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Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
 Telephone: (207) 287-1670
 Fax: (207) 287-1275

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 1383**An Act to Provide Part-time State and Participating Local District Employees with the Option of Joining the Maine State Retirement System**

ONTP

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

LD 1383 proposed that membership in the Maine State Retirement System be optional for state employees and participating local district employees who normally work 20 or fewer hours a week.

LD 1393**An Act Amending the Compensation for Members of the Panel of Mediators**

PUBLIC 412

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HATCH MILLS	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-587 S-308 MURRAY

LD 1393 proposed to raise compensation for members of the Panel of Mediators from \$100 per day, plus expenses, to \$100 for every 4 hours of mediation services provided, plus expenses.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-587) proposed to clarify the method of calculating the amount of compensation due to the members of the Panel of Mediators. It provided that members would be compensated in the amount of \$100 for the first four hours of mediation services provided, and \$100 for each consecutive period of up to four hours thereafter. The amendment also proposed to clarify that members must be compensated for each case handled in a single day according to the calculation method provided. This amendment proposed to expressly override the provisions of Title 5, section 12003-A, subsection 9, which prohibits members of boards established by the Legislature from being compensated for more than one meeting in a single day. The amendment also proposed to require members to allocate their necessary expenses to the mediation session that required the costs.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-308) This amendment proposed changes by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading to correct the amending clauses and section designations in the committee amendment.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 412 raises compensation for members of the Panel of Mediators from \$100 per day, plus expenses, to \$100 for the first 4 hours of mediation services provided, and \$100 for each consecutive period of mediation services provided, plus expenses. Under this chapter, members must be compensated for each case handled in a single day according to the calculation method provided, notwithstanding the provisions of Title 5, section 12003-A, subsection 9.