

# 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](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:

<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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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 1406****An Act to Clarify Laws Relating to Unemployment Compensation for Service with Nonprofit Organizations, Educational Institutions, State Government and Local Governments**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNLAP CATHCART	ONTP	

LD 1406 proposed to allow certain individuals employed by post-secondary educational institutions to receive unemployment benefits in instances in which they are currently ineligible to receive benefits. The changes proposed in the bill would apply to both professional and non-professional employees of post-secondary institutions.

**LD 1429****An Act to Amend the Maine Apprenticeship Program****PUBLIC 522**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MICHAUD BERRY R	OTP-AM	S-298 S-375 MICHAUD

LD 1429 proposed to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the State Apprenticeship and Training Council, the apprenticeship staff and program sponsors in order to encourage apprenticeships on a statewide basis. The bill would require the Department of Labor to provide integrated oversight of apprenticeship issues by assuming the oversight responsibility for all related instruction activity, a function previously performed by the Maine Technical College System, as well as maintaining current oversight responsibility for on-the-job training. The bill would require the Department of Labor to employ a director of apprenticeship and training to implement a statewide apprenticeship program and to pay for 50% of the tuition costs for certain apprentices. The bill also proposes that the Department of Labor produce presentations and promotional videotapes on apprenticeships.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-298)** proposed to limit the financial impact of the bill by removing those words that could be viewed as requiring the Department of Labor to offer certain educational programs, technical assistance and tuition subsidies. The amendment also proposed to replace the word "trade" with "occupation". The amendment would have added an appropriation of over \$350,000 in General Funds in each fiscal year and over \$100,000 in Federal Expenditure Funds to cover the costs of the expanded program.

**Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-375)** proposed to remove the appropriation and allocation of all funds other than the transfer of \$180,000 from the Maine Technical College System to the Department of Labor for costs associated with this program.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1997, chapter 522 clarifies the roles and responsibilities of the State Apprenticeship and Training Council, the apprenticeship staff and program sponsors in order to encourage apprenticeships on a statewide basis. It requires the Department of Labor to provide integrated oversight of apprenticeship issues by assuming the oversight responsibility for all related instruction activity, a function previously performed by the Maine Technical College System, as well as maintaining current oversight responsibility for on-the-job training. It requires the Department of Labor to employ a director of apprenticeship and training to implement a statewide apprenticeship program and, as funding allows, to pay for 50% of the tuition costs for certain apprentices.