

# 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

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*Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon*

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**Staff:**

*Carrie C. McFadden, Legislative Analyst*

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



**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](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

perform animal health care duties when the supervising licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician is either on the premises or quickly and easily available.

**LD 1483**

**An Act to License Interpreters for the Deaf and Hard-of-hearing**

**CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)  
TREAT

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1483 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature. The bill proposes to establish the Board of Licensure of American Sign Language, English Interpreting and Transliterating Professionals. Under the bill, to qualify for general licensure, a person must have at least three years of documented paid interpreting or transliteration experience with a minimum of 300 hours per year during the five years preceding the date of application and have at least 15 continuing education units approved by the board or college credit in interpreter education. Five years after the effective date of this chapter, for interpreters not previously licensed under this chapter, the requirement for licensure will be a minimum of an associates degree in interpreter education or the equivalent approved by the board.

This bill is subject to the requirement of Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12015, subsection 3 that requires any joint standing committee of the Legislature that recommends to the Legislature the regulation of an occupational profession not previously regulated must include an evaluation of the need for regulation.

**LD 1506**

**An Act to Provide Dealership Protection to Forestry, Construction and Utility Contracts**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
JONES K

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1506 proposed to add dealers in forestry, construction or utility goods to the franchise laws for power equipment, machinery and appliances.

**LD 1512**

**An Act Pertaining to the Real Estate Consumer's Right to Seller Disclosure Information**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
CAMPBELL

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1512 proposed to require the owner of real property to make disclosures to prospective buyers of the property, similar to what is currently required of a real estate broker for the seller. The bill would have required the disclosure of any material defects in the property, the type of water and waste systems used, the type of insulation and whether there are or were any hazardous materials in or on the property. If an owner failed to make the required disclosures, the buyer of the property could, at the buyer's discretion, rescind the sales contract.