

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
118TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

MAY 1998

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*Sen. John J. Cleveland*  
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**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees  
May 1998**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. 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 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:

*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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9, 1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

**LD 1812**

**An Act to Authorize Department of Transportation Bond Issues in the Amount of \$36,985,000 to Match Available Federal Funds for Improvements to Municipal and State Roads, Airports, State Ferry Vessels and Terminals, Transit Facilities and Equipment and Rail and Marine Facilities**

**P & S 82**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'GARA CLUKEY	OTP-AM	S-510

LD 1812 proposed a bond issue, in the amount of \$79,500,000, that would have been used for improvements to municipal and state roads, state and local bridges, airports, state ferry vessels and terminals and rail and marine facilities.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-510)** lowered the principal amount to be requested of the voters from \$79,500,000 to \$36,985,000 and proposed to use the funds for improvements to municipal and state roads, airports, state ferry vessels and terminals, transit facilities and equipment and rail and marine facilities. The amendment changed the election at which the bond issue would be presented to the voters from the November 1998 statewide election to the June 1998 primary election.

***Enacted law summary***

Private & Special Law 1997, chapter 82 proposes a bond issue to be presented to the voters for approval at the June 1998 primary election. The bond issue, in the amount of \$36, 985,000 will be used for improvements to municipal and state roads, airports, state ferry vessels and terminals, transit facilities and equipment and rail and marine facilities.

**LD 1829**

**An Act to Change the State's Fiscal Year from July 1st to October 1st**

**DIED BETWEEN BODIES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PINGREE KONTOS	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1829 proposed to change the State's current fiscal year, which runs from July 1st to June 30th, to one that runs from October 1st to September 30th, effective July 1, 1998. The bill also proposed to amend certain other laws to conform to the change in fiscal year; it required the Governor to submit a budget bill authorizing expenditures for the period between July 1, 1998 and October 1, 1998; and required the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to prepare proposed legislation that amended those sections of the Maine Revised Statutes or affected any other law necessary to conform to a state fiscal year that would commence on October 1st.

**LD 1840**

**An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$25,000,000 for Development of the East-West Highway**

**DIED IN CONCURRENCE**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAXL J	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1840 proposed a bond issue, in the amount of \$25,000,000, that would have been used to study and develop the East-West Highway in the State of Maine.

**LD 1911                      An Act to Fund Internet Access for Visually and Physically Impaired Persons                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PENDLETON R PENDLETON P	ONTP	

LD 1911 proposed to provide funding for Internet access by the State's visually and physically impaired citizens who lack the mobility to attain access through libraries or schools.

**LD 1948                      An Act to Improve Management of Contracted Personnel Services Costs                      PUBLIC 618**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FULLER MICHAUD	OTP-AM	H-845

LD 1948 proposed to require that the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services report to the Legislature on all temporary and contracted positions in State Government, including the duration and turnover of each position and the separate costs of each position, including wages, benefits, contract fees and administration costs.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-845)** required the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to absorb the costs associated with reporting information related to all State Government temporary and contracted positions.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1997, chapter 618 requires the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to report to the Legislature on all temporary and contracted positions in State Government, including the duration and turnover of each position and the separate costs of each position, including wages, benefits, contract fees and administration costs.