

# 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

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Michael H. Michaud, Chair*  
*Sen. John J. Cleveland*  
*Sen. Richard A. Bennett*

*Rep. George J. Kerr, Chair*  
*Rep. Thomas E. Poulin*  
*Rep. Elizabeth Townsend*  
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**Staff:**

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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.

Public Law 1997, chapter 759 restores the amount of the real estate transfer tax paid to the Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund to 1/2 of the state's net receipts effective July 1, 1999.

**LD 2057**

**An Act to Enhance Home-based Services for Maine's Elderly**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KERR PARADIS	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2057 proposed a General Fund appropriation of \$3,000,000 to the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Elder and Adult Services for the purpose of eliminating a waiting list of elderly and disabled individuals who require home-based care services through in-home and community support services and homemaker programs.

**LD 2063**

**An Act to Create the Partnership to Rebuild Maine's Schools**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MITCHELL E BENNETT	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2063 was referred jointly to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. This bill proposed to establish the School Repair Revolving Loan Fund. The fund would be administered by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank to provide interest-free loans to school administrative units to make necessary repairs to school buildings throughout the State.

**LD 2064**

**An Act to Foster Economic Development and Tourism in Maine**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DAGGETT COWGER	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2064 proposed to provide a \$2,000,000 appropriation for the construction and development of the Augusta Travel Plaza and the development of the Intelligent Transportation System. The appropriation would have been matched by federal funding.

**LD 2086**

**An Act to Continue the Membership of the Maine Legislature in the Council of State Governments**

**P & S 91**