

# 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  
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MAY 1998

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*Sen. Anne M. Rand*

*Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon*

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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.

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Specialties or the American Board of Medical Specialties as satisfaction of the requirement.

**LD 2128**                      **An Act Regulating the Practices of Feature Motion Picture Exhibitors and Distributors or Licensors and Providing Remedies for Violations**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SAXL M		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2128 proposed to regulate the practices of feature motion picture exhibitors and distributors in order to allow independently owned movie theaters to compete with larger theaters in the State.

**LD 2167**                      **Resolve, to Encourage High-performance Work Organizations and Quality Jobs in Rural Maine**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> ROWE NUTTING		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2167, which was referred to the Appropriations Committee, proposed to require state agencies providing business assistance to inform and encourage applicants for assistance to participate in voluntary workplace evaluation programs conducted by nonprofit organizations such as the Maine Quality Center. It also proposed funds for the expansion in rural areas with high unemployment and underemployment of workplace evaluation programs and for assistance in implementing high-performance workplace organizational practices.

At the invitation of the AFA, the Business & Economic Development Committee held a work session on this bill on Tuesday, February 24, 1998. The committee recommended that LD 2167 be amended to incorporate the following:

- Funding appropriated through DECD rather than the Department of Labor.
- Establish a revolving fund with respect to the business assistance allocation
- Transfer the rural workplace conversion assistance funding to LD 2249 "An Act to Promote Sustained Economic Growth and to Implement Recommendations Regarding the Department of Economic And Community Development".