

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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Rep. Jean Ginn Marvin

Rep. Tom J. Winsor

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).

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.

House Amendment "A" (H-789) proposed to authorize the transfer of \$2,000,000 from the Maine Rainy Day Fund to the Maine Emergency Management Agency to match public and individual federal disaster assistance in order to provide reimbursement for the purchase of generators.

House Amendment "B" (H-792) proposed to authorize the transfer of \$2,000,000 from the Maine Rainy Day Fund to the Maine Emergency Management Agency to match public and individual federal disaster assistance in order to provide reimbursement for the purchase of generators, kerosene space heaters, wood and other emergency heating alternatives.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-455) proposed to authorize the transfer of \$2,000,000 from the Maine Rainy Day Fund to the Maine Emergency Management Agency to match public and individual federal disaster assistance in order to provide reimbursement for the purchase of generators. Reimbursement for generators is limited to 50% of the purchase price and a maximum of \$500 per generator.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 565 authorizes the transfer of up to \$5,000,000 from the Maine Rainy Day Fund in fiscal year 1997-98 to the Maine Emergency Management Agency for the State's share for disaster assistance associated with the ice storms of 1998. This bill was enacted as an emergency measure effective on February 12, 1998.

LD 2200

An Act to Provide Funds for Applied Research and Development Relevant to the Maine Economy

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

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

LD 2200 proposed to appropriate \$10,000,000 to the Maine Economic Improvement Fund and required the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to take all actions necessary to obtain revenues from sources other than the General Fund within 5 years of the first appropriation.

LD 2205

An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$20 Million to Stimulate the Maine Economy through Research and Development

PUBLIC 718

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| | OTP-AM MAJ | S-523 |
| | OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 2205 proposed a bond issue, in the amount of \$20,000,000, that would have been used to fund a variety of programs designed to improve the Maine economy through research and development relevant to biotechnology, aquaculture and marine sciences, information technologies, advanced materials engineering and advanced technologies for forestry and agriculture. Thirteen and one-half million dollars of the bond proceeds would be allocated to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System for capital improvements and equipment.