

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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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.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1074) replaced the bill and proposed a General Fund appropriation of \$2,000,000 to the Department of Human Services to include additional medications as determined by the department to the elderly low-cost drug program. It also directed the department to pursue a Medicaid waiver to provide Medicaid prescription drug benefits. While the bill was indefinitely postponed, many of the provisions of the bill were included, in amended form, in Public Law 1997, c. 643, Part RR.

LD 2224

An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$7,000,000 to Construct Water Pollution Control Facilities; to Clean Up Tire Stockpiles; to Investigate, Abate, Clean Up and Mitigate Hazardous Substance Discharges; and to Make Drinking Water System Improvements

P & S 92

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MICHAUD | OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN | H-1169 |

LD 2224 proposed a bond issue, in the amount of \$16,000,000, that would have been used for the following purposes:

1. \$6,000,000 to construct water pollution control facilities, providing the state match for \$10,000,000 in federal funds;
2. \$3,500,000 to close and clean up municipal solid waste landfills;
3. \$1,500,000 to clean up tire stockpiles, which pose a threat to the public health and safety and the environment;
4. \$1,500,000 to investigate, abate, clean up and mitigate threats to the public health and the environment from hazardous substance discharges;
5. \$500,000 to mitigate storm water pollution through establishment of a comprehensive watershed protection program; and
6. \$3,000,000 to address environmental health deficiencies in public water supplies, providing the state match for \$15,000,000 in federal funds.

Committee of Conference Amendment "A" (H-1169) proposed a bond issue, in the amount of \$7,000,000, that would be used for the following purposes:

1. \$3,350,000 to construct water pollution control facilities, providing the state match for \$10,000,000 in federal funds. Of this amount, \$2,000,000 will be used to construct water pollution control facilities, \$850,000 will be used for the State Revolving Loan Fund and \$500,000 for the Small Community Grant Program;

2. \$1,000,000 to clean up tire stockpiles, which pose a threat to the public health and safety and the environment;
3. \$1,150,000 to investigate, abate, clean up and mitigate threats to the public health and the environment from hazardous substance discharges; and
4. \$1,500,000 to address environmental health deficiencies in public water supplies, providing the state match for \$7,100,000 in federal funds.

Enacted bill summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 92 authorizes a bond issue to be presented to the voters at the November 1998 general election in the amount of \$7,000,000 to be used for the following purposes:

1. \$3,350,000 to construct water pollution control facilities, providing the state match for \$10,000,000 in federal funds. Of this amount, \$2,000,000 will be used to construct water pollution control facilities, \$850,000 will be used for the State Revolving Loan Fund and \$500,000 for the Small Community Grant Program;
2. \$1,000,000 to clean up tire stockpiles, which pose a threat to the public health and safety and the environment;
3. \$1,150,000 to investigate, abate, clean up and mitigate threats to the public health and the environment from hazardous substance discharges; and
4. \$1,500,000 to address environmental health deficiencies in public water supplies, providing the state match for \$7,100,000 in federal funds.

LD 2249

An Act to Promote Sustained Economic Growth and to Implement Recommendations Regarding the Department of Economic and Community Development

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 2249 proposed to implement the combined recommended General Fund appropriation for the state and regional economic development organizations, including the Maine Science and Technology Foundation. In addition, it proposed to implement the recommendations regarding the Department of Economic and Community Development under the State Government Evaluation Act and made appropriations to the Department of Economic and Community Development to provide enhanced services to businesses to promote the marketing of Maine-made consumer goods. It also proposed to require the Department of Economic and Community Development to report back to the legislative committee of jurisdiction with an assessment of the benefits attributable to the additional funding. Finally, this bill proposed to repeal the statutory requirements that the Director of the Office of Business Development collect and distribute to the appropriate permitting agency permit applications and application fees for retail businesses and that the director establish a municipal centralized permitting program for retail businesses. General Fund appropriations totaling \$2,550,000, which incorporated many of the proposals included in LD 2249, were included in Public Law 1997, chapter 643, Part CC.