

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
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

MAY 1998

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Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait

Sen. James D. Libby

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Staff:

Deborah C. Friedman, Legislative Analyst

Danielle D. Tetreau, Legislative Analyst

David C. Elliott, Principal Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

(207)287-1670



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
 Telephone: (207) 287-1670
 Fax: (207) 287-1275

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.

Children’s Health Care; the Task Force on Improving Access to Prescription Drugs for the Elderly; the Task Force to Study Economic Opportunity for All Regions of the State; the Commission to Study the Unemployment Compensation System; and the Maine Commission to Study the Certificate of Need Laws. Chapter 582 was enacted as an emergency measure, effective March 4, 1998.

LD 2211 **Resolve, to Repeal a Prior Resolve Authorizing the Exchange of a Parcel of Land Owned by the State with One Owned by Luke Bolduc** **RESOLVE 98**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GAGNE	OTP-AM	H-909

LD 2211 proposed to repeal a previous resolve that required the exchange of all of the land owned by Luke Bolduc, approximately two acres, for about 37 acres of the Maine Veterans' Cemetery. This resolve requires the exchange between Mr. Bolduc and the Cemetery of approximately like-sized pieces of property while straightening out the boundary line of the cemetery.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-909) proposed to correct a Registry of Deeds page number.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 98 repeals a 1996 resolve that required the exchange of all of the land owned by Luke Bolduc, approximately two acres, for about 37 acres of the Maine Veterans’ Cemetery. This resolve requires the exchange by Mr. Bolduc and the Cemetery of approximately like-sized pieces of property and allows for straightening of the cemetery boundary line.

LD 2244 **An Act to Encourage Intergovernmental Cooperation** **PUBLIC 785**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAXL J GOLDTHWAIT	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-1016 S-761 MICHAUD

LD 2244 proposed to clarify the authority of counties to develop and contract to provide services to municipalities. The bill also proposed to increase the share of real estate transfer tax retained by counties from 10 percent to 25 percent, to appropriate \$500,000 for pilot projects conducted by counties and to require appointment of four legislators to an executive department task force on intergovernmental cooperation.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1016) proposed to delete the \$500,000 appropriation for grants to counties for pilot projects, remove authorization for counties to contract with unorganized townships and clarify language regarding fees.

Senate Amendment "B" (S-761) proposed to delete sections of the bill increasing the share of real estate transfer tax retained by the counties and authorization for grants to counties for pilot projects.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 785 clarifies the authority of counties to develop and contract to provide services to municipalities. It also requires appointment of four legislators to an executive department task force on intergovernmental cooperation and appropriates funds to pay per diem and expenses for those members.

LD 2245 An Act Requiring Notification of Option to Request Judicial Review **DIED BETWEEN BODIES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WHEELER E MICHAUD	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	

LD 2245 proposed to require state agencies to notify parties to an agency proceeding of their right to judicial review and the deadlines for filing a petition for review.

LD 2250 An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Maine Commission on Outstanding Citizens P & S 76

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-1064 S-635 LIBBY

LD 2250 proposed to implement the recommendations of the Maine Commission on Outstanding Citizens to effectuate the acquisition and display of portraits in the State House of outstanding Maine citizens.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1064) proposed to strike the bill and replace it with the list of 20 citizens included in the recommendations of the Legislature and adding Dora Bradbury Tinkham and Kate Douglas Wiggin to the list of those receiving official recognition as outstanding Maine citizens.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-635) would provide funding for acquisition of the portraits from the Percent for Art Program.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 76 implements the recommendations of the Maine Commission on Outstanding Citizens plus Dora Bradbury Tinkham and Kate Douglas Wiggin by providing for the acquisition and display of portraits in the State House of outstanding Maine Citizens through funding from the Percent for Art Program.