

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

AUGUST 1999

**MEMBERS:**

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*Sen. Mary R. Cathcart*  
*Sen. Philip E. Harriman*

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**Staff:**

*J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst*

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

From: J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst

Date: August, 1999

Re: Bill Summaries, 119th Legislature, 1st Regular Session

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs during the 1st Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The summary describes each bill or order and relevant amendments as well as the final action. Also included is a statistical summary of bill activity by the committee. Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the 1st Regular Session (unless a later date is specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999. Joint orders are effective when passed.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the committee this session. It is organized by bill (LD) number and two indices are located at the back of the document that group bills by subject and by LD number. 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:

*CARRIED OVER* ..... *Bill carried over to Second Regular Session*  
*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*  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY* ..... *Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died*  
*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*  
*READ AND PASSED*..... *Joint Order passed by the House and Senate*  
*PASSED AS AMENDED* ..... *Joint Order passed as amended by the House and Senate*

A complete summary of bills for all committees will be available in the very near future. Copies will be on file in the Law and Legislative Reference Library and Senate and House offices. You will also soon be able to access these bill summaries from our website.

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer.

**LD 103**

**An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Commission to Study Poverty Among Working Parents with Regard to State Earned Income Credit**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POVICH DAGGETT		

LD 103 proposed to establish a Maine earned income tax credit for low-income families. The credit would be 20% of the federal earned income tax credit for families below 100% of the federal poverty level, 15% for families whose income is from 100% to below 133% of the federal poverty level and 10% for families whose income is from 133% to below 185% of the federal poverty level.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-119)** proposed to replace the original bill and create a state earned income credit equal to 5% of the federal earned income credit. The credit would be nonrefundable. The amendment also proposed to change the application date and added an appropriation and fiscal note to the bill.

**Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-421)** proposed to change the amount of the earned income credit to 0.5% of the federal credit and changed the application date to January 1, 2001. The amendment also proposed to eliminate the appropriation.

The bill was originally referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation and was recommitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.

**LD 104**

**An Act to Fund a Cranberry Specialist Position in the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KNEELAND CASSIDY	ONTP	

LD 104 proposed to appropriate \$38,782 and \$48,155 from the General Fund in fiscal years 1999-00 and 2000-01, respectively, to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources for one Cranberry Specialist position, necessary start-up and ongoing operational costs.

**LD 121**

**An Act to Require the State to Fully Fund Out-of-district Placement of Special Education Students**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDTHWAIT BAKER	ONTP	

LD 121 proposed to fully fund the out-of-district placement adjustment costs of school administrative units. Appropriations for the past several years had addressed less than 25% of the amount needed to fully fund this adjustment.