

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

JULY 1999

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees
August 1999

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. 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 and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the 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:

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
ENACTMENT FAILED..... Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage
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

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
AMERO MARVIN	OTP-AM	S-337 S-422 MICHAUD

LD 180 proposed to require by 2001 that all state agencies have available technology that permits the filing of documents by electronic transmission.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-337) proposed to replace the original bill. It proposed to require that all state entities that require the filing of information by businesses or the public to have filing forms available to download from the Internet by June 1, 2000. The amendment also proposed that those state entities be required to submit by December 1, 2000 an inventory of their required form filings and a plan indicating when those form filings would be accepted electronically. The amendment also proposed to clarify that state entities may not charge a fee for electronically filing a claim. The amendment also proposed to add allocations and appropriations sections to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-344), which was not adopted, proposed to amend Committee Amendment "A" by striking the provisions in the committee amendment that resulted in additional prescription reimbursement costs under the Medicaid program within the Department of Human Services. It also proposed to strike from the committee amendment the General Fund appropriations of \$280,085 and \$302,895 and Federal Expenditures Fund allocations of \$550,165 and \$593,775 to the Department of Human Services in fiscal year 1999-00 and 2000-01, respectively.

Senate Amendment "B" (S-422) proposed to amend Committee Amendment "A" by removing the language that prohibits state agencies, departments, boards, commissions, institutions, authorities and public instrumentalities from charging a processing fee or reducing the reimbursement rate for electronic filing. This amendment also proposed to strike the appropriation and allocation sections in the committee amendment.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 446 requires every state agency, department, board, commission, institution, authority or public instrumentality that requires filing of information by businesses or the public to have filing forms available for downloading from the Internet by June 1, 2000. The law also requires those state entities to maintain an inventory of the forms available on the Internet and to provide that inventory to the joint standing committee of the legislature with jurisdiction over state government matters, to the Governor and to the Information Services Policy Board by December 1, 2000. Public Law 1999, chapter 446 also requires that each state entity submit a plan indicating when the forms will be accepted electronically by that entity.

LD 198

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Fund Mandates Enacted Solely for an Individual's Safety

ONTP

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

LD 198 proposed to amend the Constitution of Maine to require the State to reimburse Maine citizens for the entire cost of compliance with personal safety mandates.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-70), which was not adopted, was the minority report. It would have required the Governor to include in the budget provisions for the reimbursement to citizens of costs for compliance with personal safety mandates.

LD 228

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Require a Referendum for a People's Veto to Be Held at a Primary or General Election

INDEF PP

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

LD 228 proposed to require a people's veto referendum to be conducted at regular statewide elections.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-71), which was not adopted, proposed to add a fiscal note to the resolution.