

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

JULY 1999

Staff:

*Danielle D. Fox, Legislative Analyst
Christopher J. Spruce, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

MEMBERS:

*Sen. Beverly C. Daggett, Chair
Sen. Richard J. Carey
Sen. Norman K. Ferguson, Jr.*

*Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr., Chair
Rep. Lillian LaFontaine O'Brien
Rep. Nancy L. Chizmar
Rep. Charles D. Fisher
Rep. Rosita Gagne
Rep. Janice E. Labrecque
Rep. Arthur F. Mayo, III
Rep. Royce W. Perkins
Rep. Theodore H. Heidrich
Rep. Terrence P. McKenney*



**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 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.

LD 431**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Prohibit Fees for Activity Related to the Election Process****ONTP**

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

LD 431 proposed to amend the Constitution of Maine to prohibit the assessment of fees in connection with a citizen's participation in the election process.

LD 438**An Act to Expedite Removal of Invalid Voter Names from Voter Lists****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GLYNN	OTP-AM A ONTP B	

LD 438 proposed to change the process for the removal of inactive voters from voting lists by requiring municipal clerks to remove a voter from the voting list within 90 days after the second general election after the voter fails to respond to a change of address notice mailed by the clerk.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-384), which was not adopted, proposed to change the time when a voter must be removed from the voting list to 90 days after the ballots are unsealed.

LD 445**An Act to Amend the Election Laws Concerning Vacancies in the House of Representatives****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAYO CAREY	ONTP	

LD 445 proposed to allow any voter eligible to vote in a political party's primary to vote in that political committee's election to fill a vacancy in the House of Representatives of that voter's district. Current law states that municipal political committees alone choose new candidates to fill vacancies.