

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
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

*Sen. Peggy A. Pendleton, Chair
Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait
Sen. Paul T. Davis*

*Rep. Douglas J. Ahearne, Chair
Rep. Martha A. Bagley
Rep. Benjamin L. Rines, Jr.
Rep. John F. McDonough
Rep. Joanne T. Twomey
Rep. Randall L. Bumps
Rep. Susan Kasprzak
Rep. Arlan R. Jodrey
Rep. Earl E. Richardson
Rep. Belinda A. Gerry
Rep. Donald G. Soctomah*

Staff:

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

Committee Amendment "A" (H-408), which was not adopted, would have added a fiscal note to the resolution.

LD 621

An Act to Allow Towns to Sand and Plow Private Ways

ONTP

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

LD 621 proposed to allow a municipality to sand and plow private ways if the voters of that municipality have voted at a public meeting to sand and plow designated private roads.

LD 627

An Act to Require the Legislature to Examine Executive Orders for Violations of Separation of Powers

DIED BETWEEN BODIES

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

LD 627 proposed to establish a mechanism for the Legislature and the Supreme Judicial Court to review the constitutionality of executive orders issued by the Governor. The bill also proposed to require the Governor to document the emergency that gave rise to the executive order and limit the effect of the executive order to the duration of the emergency.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-143), which was adopted by the House, but not by the Senate, proposed to require the Governor to disseminate executive orders to each member of the relevant joint standing committee of the Legislature. The amendment proposed to change title of the bill to reflect this requirement.

LD 648

An Act Related to Legislator Intervention in Actions Before a State Agency or Authority

ONTP

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

LD 648 proposed to make it a conflict of interest for a Legislator to intervene in an action before a state agency or authority whose members are appointed by the legislative committee on which the Legislator serves.

LD 660

An Act to Include Counties in the Definition of Local Government in the Archives and Records Management Law

PUBLIC 12

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDTHWAIT SAXL J	OTP	

LD 660 proposed to bring the law into compliance with the assumption that counties continue to be covered by current state law governing recordkeeping. When the Municipal Records Board and the County Records Board were both