

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**JULY 1999**

**MEMBERS:**

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Sen. Susan W. Longley  
Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon*

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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](http://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><br>MCDONOUGH<br>KONTOS | <u>Committee Report</u><br>OTP-AM | <u>Amendments Adopted</u><br>H-201 |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|

LD 745 proposed to exempt from the Propane and Natural Gas Act self-service propane or natural gas dispensing stations that dispense fuel into a clean fuel vehicle through pumps that have been certified to standards of safety equivalent to those applicable to gasoline delivery pumps certified for self-service operation by any motor vehicle operator.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-201)** replaced the bill. This amendment defined "self-service propane or natural gas dispenser" and exempted individual users of self-service propane or natural gas dispensers from the licensing provisions of the Propane and Natural Gas Act.

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1999, chapter 133 amends the Propane and Natural Gas Act. The law defines "self-service propane or natural gas dispenser" and exempts individual users of self-service propane or natural gas dispensers from the licensing provisions of the Act.

|                            |                                 |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u><br>TRACY | <u>Committee Report</u><br>ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|

LD 784 proposed to expand the prohibition under current law on use of social security numbers to prohibit all business organizations, governmental entities and all other entities operating in the State from requesting a person's social security number for any purpose unless it is necessary to collect or disperse social security funds or when federal law requires the Federal Government to obtain a person's social security number from the business. Employers were permitted to request an employee's social security number without these limitations. The Attorney General was given the power to enforce the prohibition.

|                           |                                 |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u><br>MUSE | <u>Committee Report</u><br>ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|

LD 814 proposed to establish a "lemon law" governing the sale and lease of new inboard motorboats in the State. It also proposed to establish state-certified arbitration for disputes over new inboard motorboats.