

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.

LD 711

An Act to Require an Audit and Program Review of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority

ONTP

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

LD 711 proposed to require the State Auditor to conduct an audit of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority. It also would require the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government to conduct a program review of the authority. The bill also proposed to remove an outdated reference to the Maine Court Facilities Authority, which was subsumed by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority.

LD 715

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Provide 4-year Terms for Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives

ONTP

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

LD 715 proposed to amend the Constitution of Maine to increase the term of office of Legislators to four years following the general election in 2002. Under the proposed change, the Legislature would meet every year, but the business in the fourth year would be restricted as it is presently in the second year, the restriction on which would remain unchanged.

LD 752

An Act to Require the Secretary of State to Supply Municipalities with Preprinted, Postage-prepaid Post Cards to be Used When a Voter Moves

ONTP

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

LD 752 proposed to require that the Secretary of State provide municipalities with self-addressed, postage-prepaid post cards on which to report changes in voter registration. The Secretary of State would then notify the voter's prior municipality of registration of the change.

LD 754

An Act to Amend the Laws Establishing a State Poet Laureate

PUBLIC 217

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDTHWAIT	OTP-AM	S-132

LD 754 proposed to streamline the selection process for the State Poet Laureate, to clarify the purpose of the position and to provide for a longer term.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-132) proposed to correct a reference to the term of the Poet Laureate. The current term for the Poet Laureate is one year.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 217 extends the term of office for State Poet Laureate from one to five years. It also allows reappointment of a Poet Laureate for a second, five-year term. Public Law 1999, chapter 217 creates an advisory committee to select the Poet Laureate. The Governor must appoint the Poet Laureate during Maine Cultural Heritage Week, which includes March 15th, Statehood Day. The law also requires the State to provide space at the State House complex for public display of the Poet Laureate's work.

LD 815 **An Act to Require Counties to be Reimbursed for Medical Expenses Incurred by Prisoners from Other Jurisdictions** **ONTP**

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

LD 815 proposed that a county in which a prisoner resided at the time the prisoner committed an offense in another county be required to reimburse the county in which the prisoner is incarcerated for any medical and dental expenses incurred by that prisoner.

LD 818 **An Act to Require Municipal Police Departments to Assist When Called Upon by the State Police on the Interstate Highways under Certain Circumstances** **ONTP**

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

LD 818 proposed to require that municipal police officers respond to requests for assistance from the State Police when public safety is in danger on those sections of the interstate highway system that are in the municipality's jurisdiction.

LD 823 **An Act Concerning Sheriffs' Annual Meetings with Municipal Officers** **ONTP**

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

LD 823 proposed to make optional the annual meeting between county officials and municipal officers concerning operation of sheriffs' departments.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-122), which was not adopted, was the minority report. It proposed to replace the original bill by repealing the statutory requirement that the county sheriff in each county hold an annual meeting with the county commissioners and municipal officers of that county concerning the operation of the sheriff's department.