

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
JUDICIARY**

**JULY 1999**

**MEMBERS:**

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*Sen. Sharon Anglin Treat*

*Sen. John W. Benoit*

*Rep. Richard H. Thompson, Chair*

*Rep. Thomas Bull*

*Rep. Charles C. Laverdiere*

*Rep. Patricia T. Jacobs*

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*Rep. William J. Schneider*

*Rep. Donna M. Loring*

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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.

**LD 908****An Act to Create Standards for Guardians Ad Litem in Certain Domestic Relations Matters**

ONTP

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

LD 908 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to adopt rules establishing standards for guardians ad litem appointed in domestic relations cases. See also LD 1213.

**LD 914****An Act to Require Testing for HIV and Blood-borne Pathogens of All Prisoners in the Maine Correctional System****DIED BETWEEN BODIES**

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

LD 914 proposed to require the Department of Corrections to perform HIV, hepatitis-B and hepatitis-C testing on all clients of the department.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-478)**, the minority report, proposed to exclude juveniles from the mandatory testing. (Not adopted)

**LD 917****An Act to Ban Partial Birth Abortion Except to Protect the Life or Health of the Mother**

ONTP

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

LD 917 proposed to clarify the definition of "abortion" to specifically state that it includes partial birth abortion.

It proposed to amend the State policy on post-viability abortions to clarify that the use of the dilation and evacuation method of abortion after viability is restricted to only those situations in which the abortion is necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother. See also LD 571, LD 1593.

**LD 925****An Act to Create a Superlien for Condominium Association Assessments**

ONTP

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

LD 925 proposed to allow a lien for condominium assessments to take priority over all other liens except liens for real estate taxes and other governmental assessments against the unit.