

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

JULY 1999

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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).

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-88) proposed to add a mandate preamble to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 89 extends the life of the Penobscot County Budget Committee an additional four years beyond its statutory repeal date of December 31, 1999. The new law repeals the budget committee effective December 31, 2003.

LD 924 **An Act to Require That a Harbor Master be Appointed by the Municipal Officers** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SKOGLUND		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 924 proposed to clarify current law to require that harbor masters be appointed by the municipal officers rather than elected at town meeting or general election.

LD 946 **An Act to Change the Composition of the Somerset County Budget Committee** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MILLS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 946 proposed to eliminate the three-Legislator advisory, nonvoting members of the Somerset County Budget Committee and to include a single Legislator on the Somerset County Budget Committee to serve as a voting member of the committee.

LD 970 **Resolve, Authorizing the Knox County Commissioners to Borrow Not More than \$1,000,000 for Construction or Renovation of a District Court and Office Areas in Knox County** **RESOLVE 59 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCNEIL PINGREE		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-407 H-569 MCNEIL
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LD 970 proposed to authorize the Knox County commissioners to borrow up to \$2,500,000 for the construction or renovation of a District Court and office areas in Knox County. The Judicial Department would be responsible for reimbursing Knox County for all debt service costs as well as for the annual maintenance and janitorial services associated with the District Court facility.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-407) proposed to change the title, reduce the amount to be borrowed from \$2,500,000 to \$1,000,000 and to authorize the Knox County Commissioners to hold a county-wide referendum to authorize the commissioners to borrow funds to build or renovate the District Court and office areas in Knox County.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-569) proposed to remove the provision requiring the Judicial Department to reimburse Knox County.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 59 authorizes the Knox County Commissioners to hold a referendum seeking the approval of Knox County voters to borrow not more than \$1,000,000 for the construction or renovation of a district court and office areas in Knox County. Within 18 months after adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 119th legislature, the resolve must be submitted to Knox County voters.

Chapter 59 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 9, 1999.

LD 984

An Act to Allow the Town of Madrid to Deorganize

P & S 31

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BENOIT JODREY	OTP-AM	S-133

LD 984 proposed to provide for the deorganization of the Town of Madrid in Franklin County, subject to approval at local referendum. It also specified that, upon deorganization, the kindergarten to Grade 8 pupils may attend schools in the Town of Phillips and all secondary school pupils may attend schools within School Administrative District No. 58.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-133) proposed to clarify that a vote to deorganize by the Town of Madrid is a local option and not a state mandate. The amendment also inserted an appropriation section detailing the cost to the State of the deorganization of the Town of Madrid.