

# 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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Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait  
Sen. Paul T. Davis*

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*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](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.

*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.

***Enacted law summary***

Private and Special 1999, chapter 31 authorizes the municipal officers of the Town of Madrid to submit to the legal voters of Madrid a referendum question that asks whether or not they favor deorganization of the Town of Madrid. The law specifies that should deorganization be approved by voters, that the kindergarten to Grade 8 pupils from the town may attend schools in the Town of Phillips and that all secondary school pupils from Madrid may attend schools within School Administrative District 58. The law appropriates \$20,402 to fund a Property Tax Appraiser I position on a temporary basis to inventory and determine the valuation of all taxable property in the Town of Madrid. It also deappropriates \$31,000 to reflect the reductions in tree growth tax reimbursements associated with the deorganization of the Town of Madrid.

**LD 994                      An Act Regarding State Construction Projects                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DOUGLASS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 994 proposed to require the Capitol Planning Commission and the Governor to hold two meetings annually with all state agency heads and to oversee current and upcoming construction projects. Objectives for these meetings would be to consider coordination and cooperative development, to provide open communication among all parties involved in state agency construction projects and to establish a preference for locating state offices in downtown areas.

**LD 1001                      An Act to Repeal Term Limits                      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CAMERON GOLDTHWAIT		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1001 proposes to repeal term limits for state legislators and constitutional officers. The bill, as proposed, does not require a public referendum on the repeal.

**LD 1006                      An Act to Provide for Citizen Participation in the Hancock County Budget                      PUBLIC 440**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> POVICH		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM    MAJ ONTP        MIN		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-171
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LD 1006 proposed to require one representative of the public from each county commissioner district of Hancock County to be elected to the Hancock County Budget Advisory Committee.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-171)** proposed to amend the original bill to allow voters at annual county commissioner district caucuses to elect either a municipal officer or a member of the public as a member of the Hancock County Budget Advisory Committee. It also required the county commissioners to give public notice of the commissioner district caucuses.

***Enacted law summary***