

# 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:**

*Sen. Carol A. Kontos, Chair  
Sen. Susan W. Longley  
Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon*

*Rep. Gary L. O'Neal, Chair  
Rep. Rosaire J. Sirois  
Rep. Verdi L. Tripp  
Rep. Ronald E. Usher  
Rep. Brian Bolduc  
Rep. Jean Ginn Marvin  
Rep. David E. Bowles  
Rep. Harold A. Clough  
Rep. Stavros J. Mendros  
Rep. Kevin L. Shorey*

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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.

The Finance Authority of Maine would reserve \$300,000 for loans to quality child care projects. This amendment was not adopted.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-588)** proposed to change an annual reporting date to the last business day of the year. This amendment was not adopted.

The provisions of this bill and amendments were subsequently incorporated into LD 617 (Public Law 1999, chapter 401, Part 000).

**LD 1070**                      **An Act to Expand the Bottle Law to Include Certain Beverage Containers**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LIBBY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1070 proposed to subject to the bottle law rice milk, unflavored soymilk, milk and dairy-derived beverage containers that are 24 ounces in size or less.

**LD 1083**                      **An Act to Amend the Real Estate Brokerage Law**                      **PUBLIC 129**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KONTOS O'NEAL		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-77
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LD 1083 proposed to amend the real estate brokerage laws. The proposed changes in the bill would:

1. Repeal the licensing requirement for time-share agents;
2. Repeal the right of a complainant to appeal a decision made by the director to dismiss or not to pursue a complaint;
3. Increase the number of continuing education clock hours from 12 to 15 for active licensees;
4. Increase in increments the total number of hours required to activate a license;
5. Require an examination for licensees activating after six years on the inactive status;
6. Repeal one method to qualify for licensure as an associate broker;
7. Repeal an outdated section requiring specific disclosure for mobile home sales with or without land; and
8. Clarify sections regarding the need for certain listings to be in writing, the duty to produce documents requested by the director, the need to license branch offices, the duty to notify the commission of material changes in the original license application and certain definitions used in the agency relationship subchapter.

This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-77)** proposed to clarify that the time frames for determining the requirements to reinstate an inactive real estate broker license begin running on the effective date of the bill. This amendment also added a fiscal note to the bill.