MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE 119TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

AUGUST 1999

MEMBERS: Sen. Michael H. Michaud, Chair Sen. Mary R. Cathcart Sen. Philip E. Harriman

Rep. Elizabeth Townsend, Chair Rep. Kathleen A. Stevens Rep. Randall L. Berry Rep. Richard H. Mailhot Rep. Judith A. Powers Rep. Paul L. Tessier Rep. Richard Kneeland Rep. Tom J. Winsor Rep. Joseph Bruno Rep. Richard A. Nass

Staff:
J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst

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MEMORANDUM

То

Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

From:

J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst

Date:

August, 1999

Re:

Bill Summaries, 119th Legislature, 1st Regular Session

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs during the 1st Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The summary describes each bill or order and relevant amendments as well as the final action. Also included is a statistical summary of bill activity by the committee. Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the 1st Regular Session (unless a later date is specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999. Joint orders are effective when passed.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the committee this session. It is organized by bill (LD) number and two indices are located at the back of the document that group bills by subject and by LD number. 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 OVERBill carried over to Second Regular Session
CON RES XXX Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREECommittee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
DIED BETWEEN BODIES
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
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGEEmergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGEBill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENTBill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODYRuled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEF PP Bill Indefinitely Postponed ONTP Ought Not To Pass report accepted
ONTP Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP NDCommittee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
OTP ND/NT
P&S XXX
PUBLIC XXX
RESOLVE XXX
UNSIGNED
VETO SUSTAINEDLegislature failed to override Governor's Veto
READ AND PASSEDJoint Order passed by the House and Senate
PASSED AS AMENDEDJoint Order passed as amended by the House and Senate

A complete summary of bills for all committees will be available in the very near future. Copies will be on file in the Law and Legislative Reference Library and Senate and House offices. You will also soon be able to access these bill summaries from our website.

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer.

LD 1198 proposed to increase funding for the Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community program statewide to sustain and expand education and training, employment and self-employment training, placement and transitional support services for displaced homemakers to lead to economic self-sufficiency. The funding would have provided for increased costs for existing centers and the creation of new service delivery sites in unserved areas of the State.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-405) proposed to reduce the General Fund appropriations provided for the Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community.

The bill, as amended by this amendment, was vetoed by the Governor and the veto sustained.

LD 1234 An Act to Establish the Maine School Technology Fund

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
WINSOR	ONTP	
AMERO		

LD 1234 proposed to establish the Maine School Technology Fund, the funding for which would have been provided from annual transfers of net state lottery revenues. The fund would have been used to assist schools maintain an ongoing technology replacement program and would have provided assistance to school staff in the use of instructional technology.

LD 1238 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$10,000,000 for Historic Preservation

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
DUNLAP		
CATHCART		

LD 1238 proposed a bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000, that would have been used to support the preservation of battle flags of the Maine's volunteer regiments and other projects designated by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.

LD 1275

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Wage Fairness Task Force

INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LAWRENCE	OTP-AM	
BERRY R		

LD 1275 proposed to implement the recommendations of the Wage Fairness Task Force. It would have provided funding to achieve wage parity between direct-care workers employed by intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation and direct-care workers providing other community services for persons with mental retardation. The appropriation mirrored the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services' budget request for fiscal years 1999-00 and 2000-01.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-229) proposed to provide funding for wage increases to workers employed by community mental retardation services providers. It directed the Commissioner of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to implement the wage increases through contracts and service agreements with community agencies. While this bill was indefinitely postponed, a General Fund appropriation of \$1,199,000 and \$1,600,000 in fiscal years 1999-2000 and 2000-01 respectively for this purpose was enacted as part of the "Part 2" budget bill (see Public Law 1999, chapter 401, part SS).

LD 1279 An Act to Provide Funds for a New Historical Atlas of Maine

INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)	Committee	Report	Amendments Adopted
STEVENS	OTP-AM	MAJ	
CATHCART	ONTP	MIN	

LD 1279 proposed a General Fund appropriation of \$800,000 to the University of Maine System to allow the Cultural Heritage Preservation Committee at the University of Maine to develop and publish a new <u>Historical Atlas of Maine</u>.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-297) proposed to reduce the General Fund appropriation by \$440,000, and provided an appropriation of \$360,000 to develop and publish a new <u>Historic Atlas of Maine</u>. While this bill was indefinitely postponed, a General Fund appropriation of \$160,000 for this purpose was included in Public Law 1999, chapter 401, Part HH.

LD 1302 An Act to Provide Partial Funding for Construction of the Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service

INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)	Committe	e Report	
MARTIN	OTP	MAJ	
LAWRENCE	ONTP	MIN	

LD 1302 proposed a General Fund appropriation of \$3,500,000 to be used with other public and private funding sources to construct the Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service on the campus of the University of Southern Maine. While this bill was indefinitely postponed, a General Fund appropriation of \$3,500,000 for this purpose was included in Public Law

Amendments Adopted

LD 1317 An Act to Appropriate Additional Funding for Court-appointed Counsel

INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LAWRENCE	OTP-AM	
ROWE		

LD 1317 proposed to appropriate from the General Fund \$3,000,000 in 1990-00 and \$3,175,000 in 2000-01 to increase the rate paid to court-appointed counsel from \$40 per hour to \$60 per hour.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-123) proposed to appropriate from the General Fund \$1,500,000 in 1999-00 and \$1,587,500 in 2000-01 to increase the rate paid to court-appointed counsel from \$40 per hour to \$50 per hour. This bill as amended by this amendment was indefinitely postponed off the Special Appropriations Table. The "Part 2" budget bill, Public Law 1999, chapter 401, Part HH, includes funding to increase the rate paid to court-appointed counsel to \$50 per hour effective July 1, 2000.

1999, chapter 401, Part EE.