

# 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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**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*  
*ONT P..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted*  
*OT P ND..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft*  
*OT P 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.

*David E. Boulter, Director*  
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

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

LD 1440 proposed to designate the third Monday of January of each year as Civil Rights Day.

**LD 1694**

**Resolve, to Direct the Maine State Museum and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to Include, Consult and Involve Local Historical Societies and Affected Municipalities in the Recovery and Local Display of Certain Revolutionary War Artifacts**

**RESOLVE 45  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL	OTP-AM	H-409

LD 1694 proposed to grant equal rights to the Brewer Historical Society and the Bangor Historical Society to salvage Revolutionary War vessels submerged in the Penobscot River.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-409)** proposed to amend the original resolve to require that the Maine State Museum and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission include, consult and involve the historical societies of Brewer and Bangor and other communities located along the banks of the Penobscot River in the salvage and local display of Revolutionary War-era artifacts submerged in the Penobscot River. The amendment also would add a requirement that any study of the salvage of Penobscot Expedition artifacts from the Penobscot River encourage a variety of public and private funding sources for any recovery project or local display effort. It proposed to delete from the original resolve the granting of the salvage rights to the Brewer and Bangor historical societies.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 1999, chapter 45 directs the Maine State Museum and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to include, consult and involve the historical societies of Brewer and Bangor and other communities located along the Penobscot River in the salvage and display of Revolutionary War-Era artifacts submerged in the Penobscot River. The law also requires that any study of the salvage of the Penobscot Expedition artifacts encourage a variety of public and private funding sources for any recovery project or effort to locally display such artifacts. Resolve, 1999, Chapter 45 also reconfirms that the State retains salvage rights for such artifacts.

Chapter 45 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 21, 1999.

**LD 1700****An Act to Amend the Municipal Board of Appeals Process**

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

LD 1700 proposed to amend the municipal board of appeals process for granting a variance by repealing the criteria for “undue hardship” that states that the variance may be granted if it is determined that the land in question can not yield a reasonable return.