

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR**

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

Sen. Neria R. Douglass, Chair

Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain, III

Sen. S. Peter Mills

Rep. Pamela Henderson Hatch, Chair

Rep. Roland B. Samson

Rep. Zachary E. Matthews

Rep. Roger D. Frechette

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Rep. Jay MacDougall

Rep. Adam Mack

Rep. Gerald M. 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).

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.

LD 1448**An Act to Eliminate the Legislative Retirement System****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARRIMAN	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1448 proposed to eliminate the Maine Legislative Retirement System for legislators who are not vested on December 31, 1999. After that date, current Legislators who were not vested would not remain members of the system and future Legislators would have been required to join either a 401(a) defined contribution plan or a 457 deferred compensation plan or both. The plans were to be administrated by the Maine State Retirement System. The bill proposed that legislators contribute at least 7.5% of their compensation to one of the plans; additional contributions above that level would be subject to federal law. The State would have been required to contribute to the plans on behalf of Legislators at the same rate as Legislators up to the contribution rate for employers under the United States Social Security Act. Any gains realized by the Maine State Retirement System as a result of this bill were to be used to reduce the unfunded liability of the Maine State Retirement System attributable to state employees and teachers. See also LD 2041.

LD 1463**An Act to Require the Department of Labor to Pay for Workers' Compensation Related Translation Services****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRAGDON MITCHELL B	ONTP	

LD 1463 proposed to require the Department of Labor to pay for an interpreter during workers' compensation proceedings for an employee who is not fluent in English. See also LD 1016.

LD 1510**An Act to Clarify the Medical Fee Schedule in Workers' Compensation Cases****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL B BROOKS	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

LD 1510 proposed to prohibit unpaid medical claims recovered in workers' compensation cases from being reduced by contingent attorney's fees.

LD 1512**An Act to Amend Maine's Family and Medical Leave Law****VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CATHCART HATCH	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-576 HATCH S-217 S-323 DOUGLASS