

# 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**

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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.

**LD 1513**

**An Act to Clarify the Definition of "Area of Operation" for Municipal Housing Authorities**

**PUBLIC 104**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARRIMAN RICHARDSON J	OTP	

LD 1513 proposed to amend the definition of "area of operation" of a housing authority. It also proposed to establish a consistent "area of operation" for all municipal housing authorities by eliminating the current distinction between housing authorities in cities and towns.

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1999, chapter 104 amends the Maine Housing Authorities Act by amending the definition of "area of operation" of a housing authority. The law establishes a consistent "area of operation" for all municipal housing authorities by eliminating the current distinction between housing authorities in cities and towns.

**LD 1545**

**An Act Requiring Registration of Surveys in the Registry of Deeds**

**ONTP**

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

LD 1545 proposed to require that any survey performed by a licensed professional land surveyor be recorded in the registry of deeds by the surveyor.

**LD 1564**

**An Act to Require That Physician Signatures on Prescriptions Be Legible**

**ONTP**

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

LD 1564 proposed to require a physician to print, stamp or type the physician's name below the signature blank for prescriptions in order for pharmacists to identify the physician requesting the prescription. It also proposed to require the physician's identification number to be printed, stamped or typed alongside the physician's name.

**LD 1595**

**An Act Regarding Complementary Health Care Providers**

**ONTP**

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

LD 1595 proposed to amend the laws governing the Board of Complementary Health Care Providers to eliminate the provisions regulating the practice of naturopathic medicine.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-304)** was the minority report. It proposed to replace the entire text of the original bill. This amendment proposed to repeal the language in the laws regulating naturopathic medicine that allowed

naturopathic doctors to prescribe "noncontrolled legend" substances. Under this amendment, naturopathic doctors would only be allowed to recommend or prescribe nonprescription drugs, food, food extracts, homeopathic remedies, vitamins, minerals, enzymes, digestive aids and botanical substances. Naturopathic doctors would be prevented from prescribing anything that requires a prescription under state or federal laws. As a result, the provision in the original bill that would have required collaborative practice with an allopathic or osteopathic physician for a 12-month period prior to being given limited prescriptive authority was not necessary and was repealed by this amendment. This amendment also proposed to clarify that the law is not intended to prevent the practice of natural health consultation or natural health practice modalities by people other than those licensed to practice naturopathic medicine. This amendment also added an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

This amendment was not enacted.

**LD 1611**                      **An Act to Integrate the Maine Economic Growth Council's Economic Growth Plan with the State's Economic Strategic Development Plan**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 1611 proposed to require the Maine Economic Growth Council to cooperate with the Department of Economic and Community Development in developing a plan for a sustainable state economy.

**LD 1618**                      **An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Professional Engineers**                      **PUBLIC 186**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CATHCART	OTP-AM	S-118

LD 1618 proposed to revise the criteria for registration as a professional engineer and certification as an engineer-intern. All applicants who are not registered in another jurisdiction would be required to pass the fundamentals of engineering examination. The bill also proposed minor clarifying changes to the laws regulating engineers.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-118)** proposed to add an applicant who meets the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 1352-A, subsection 1, paragraph D to the group of applicants who will qualify to be registered as a professional engineer beginning January 1, 2005. This amendment also added an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

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

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 186 revises the qualifications for registration as a professional engineer and certification as an engineer-intern. Chapter 186 also makes minor changes to the laws regulating engineers.