

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).

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.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE	OTP-AM A	S-190
ROWE	OTP-AM B	S-408 MICHAUD
	ONTP C	

LD 1636 proposed to provide a General Fund appropriation of \$500,000 in each year of the biennium to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to market Maine agricultural products.

The bill would also provide funds to the Department of Economic and Community Development for several new initiatives. They include: funding for annual legislative summits with leaders from Quebec and New Brunswick; the establishment of trade and tourism offices in Montreal, Quebec and St. John, New Brunswick; contracts for two field representatives in currently underserved and economically depressed areas; and support for the Forum Francophone.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-190)B was the majority report. This amendment proposed to strike the original bill and replace it with General Fund appropriations to the Department of Economic and Community Development for contracts for two field representatives in currently underserved and economically depressed areas and provides funds to support the Forum Francophone. This amendment also added a fiscal note.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-191) was a minority report. This amendment proposed to strike the original bill and replace it with General Fund appropriations to the Department of Economic and Community Development to support the Forum Francophone. This amendment also added a fiscal note.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-408) proposed to eliminate the funding for the Business Development program and clarify that General Fund appropriations for the Forum Francophone are provided on an ongoing basis.

The Legislature enacted the bill with Committee Amendment "A" and Senate Amendment "A", however, the Governor vetoed the bill. The veto was sustained.

LD 1665**Resolve, to Promote Natural Resource-based Industries****CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KILKELLY		
DUNLAP		

LD 1665 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The resolve proposes to direct the State Planning Office to develop a report that:

1. Proposes ways to ensure that state resources dedicated to natural resource-based industries are equitable with state resources dedicated to other business development;
2. Analyzes the current needs of the workforce for natural resource-based industries and the education programs that service this workforce; and
3. Proposes new education programs that will encourage individuals to enter into the fishing, farming and forestry industry.