

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

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> COWGER KILKELLY	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-311
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LD 1766 proposed to provide the same termination notice period for rented mobile homes as for other residential buildings.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-311) proposed to replace the bill. This amendment clarified that the laws governing the termination of a tenancy in a mobile home park apply only to tenants of space in the park and not to tenants who are renting a mobile home owned by the owner or operator of the park. Termination of these tenancies are governed by the terms of the lease, or, if there is no lease, in accordance with the law governing tenancies at will.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 287 clarifies that laws governing the termination of a tenancy in a mobile home park apply only to tenants of space in the park and not to tenants who rent a mobile home owned by the owner or operator of the park.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GERRY BERUBE	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1775 proposed to direct the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Emergency Management Agency to establish a disaster relief food assistance program to be effective August 1, 1999. It also proposed to appropriate \$50,000,000 for the purpose of having the department purchase items necessary for carrying out this resolve.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DAGGETT MADORE	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-127
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LD 1788 proposed to clarify that the seven-day notice for nonpayment evictions applies only to tenancies at will and not to leasehold tenancies.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-127) modified two additional provisions of law relating to tenancies at will to clarify that they apply only to tenancies at will.

Enacted law summary