

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

JULY 2000

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
July 2000

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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:

- 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
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*..... Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*..... Bill failed to get majority vote
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*..... Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
- 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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

David E. Boulter, Director
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

The report would be submitted to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature by January 1, 2000.

Committee Amendment “A” (S-549) proposed to change the reporting date from January 1, 2000 to January 1, 2001 and proposed to require the State Planning Office to submit the report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development matters instead of to the Legislature. The amendment also proposed to direct the State Planning Office to include in its report the identification of barriers to and opportunities for natural resource-based industries. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 99 directs 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;
3. Proposes new education programs that will encourage individuals to enter into the fishing, farming and forestry industry; and
4. Identifies barriers to and opportunities for natural resource-based industries.

The report will be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development matters by January 1, 2001.

LD 1726

An Act to Ensure Fair Competition within the Motor Fuels Industry

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CASSIDY BUCK | ONTP | |

LD 1726 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to amend the Petroleum Market Share Act by requiring the State to eliminate anti-competitive situations among Maine’s petroleum marketers.

LD 1789

An Act to Improve the Licensing Procedures for Veterinarians

ONTP

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

LD 1789 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to enable the Board of Veterinary Medicine to charge a lesser licensing fee for veterinarians who are no longer engaged in active practice but who want to remain licensed. The bill also proposed to clarify administrative procedures for the relicensing of veterinarians.

LD 1846 **An Act to Require Motion Picture Distributors to Give Exhibitors an Equal Opportunity to Bid for the Right to Exhibit Motion Pictures** **ONTP**

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

LD 1846 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to require that motion picture distributors give motion picture exhibitors an equal opportunity to bid on the right to exhibit motion pictures in the State.

LD 1895 **An Act to Establish Enterprise Zones to Fund Businesses in Areas of High Unemployment** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LAVERDIERE MILLS | ONTP | |

LD 1895 was carried over from the First Regular Session. It was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208 and proposed to establish enterprise zones in areas of the State in which the unemployment rate exceeds the statewide average unemployment rate by 75% or more. The enterprise zones would receive priority for all state economic development funds. LD 1895 also proposed to establish a fund in the Finance Authority of Maine and finance the fund through bonds issued by FAME. Under the bill, a business located in an enterprise zone could receive loans from the fund, based on criteria established and administered by FAME.

LD 1910 **An Act to Promote Economic Development in Central Maine** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CAMPBELL | ONTP | |

LD 1910 was carried over from the First Regular Session. It was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208 and proposed to implement legislation to improve central Maine. It proposed to:

1. Issue a \$5,000,000 bond to establish a revolving loan fund to capitalize the Community Industrial Buildings Fund, a fund to assist local development corporations in constructing community industrial