

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
TAXATION**

AUGUST 1999

MEMBERS:

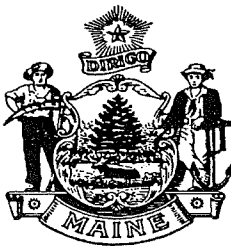
*Sen. Richard P. Ruhlin, Chair
Sen. Beverly C. Daggett
Sen. S. Peter Mills*

*Rep. Kenneth T. Gagnon, Chair
Rep. Bonnie Green
Rep. Thomas M. Davidson
Rep. Patrick Colwell
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Rep. Kenneth F. Lemont
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Rep. John T. Buck
Rep. Peter E. Cianchette*

Staff:

Julie S. Jones, Legislative Analyst

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MEMORANDUM

To: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Taxation

From: Julie S. Jones, Legislative Analyst

Date: August, 1999

Re: Bill Summaries, 119th Legislature, 1st Regular Session

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation during the 1st Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The summary describes each bill or order and relevant amendments as well as the final action. Also included is a statistical summary of bill activity by the committee. Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the 1st Regular Session (unless a later date is specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999. Joint orders are effective when passed.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the committee this session. It is organized by bill (LD) number and two indices are located at the back of the document that group bills by subject and by LD number. 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
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
READ AND PASSED	Joint Order passed by the House and Senate
PASSED AS AMENDED	Joint Order passed as amended by the House and Senate

A complete summary of bills for all committees will be available in the very near future. Copies will be on file in the Law and Legislative Reference Library and Senate and House offices. You will also soon be able to access these bill summaries from our website.

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer.

Enacted law

Resolves 1999, chapter 52 authorized the State Tax Assessor to sell certain real property in the unorganized territory acquired by the State for nonpayment of property taxes.

LD 1841
**An Act to Require Review of a Property Tax Assessment When the
Property Has Been Potentially Devalued by a Law**
ONTP

Sponsor(s)
JOY

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1841 proposed to require a tax assessor to review the assessment of a taxable property in the assessor's jurisdiction within 30 days of enactment of a state law or rule that may reduce the value of the property. If the assessor determines that the state law or rule does devalue the property, this bill would have required the assessor to revalue the property.

LD 1845
An Act to Limit the Imposition of Excise Taxes on Watercraft
PUBLIC 304

Sponsor(s)
PIEH
KILKELLY

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-385

LD 1845 proposed to limit the collection of unpaid watercraft excise tax to the current year and the previous year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-385) proposed to delete the requirement that the previous year's watercraft excise taxes be paid before a municipality certifies that excise taxes have been paid.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 304 provides that a municipality may not withhold certification that watercraft excise taxes have been paid if the current year's tax has been paid.

LD 1847
**An Act to Increase the Amount of Revenue Dedicated to Local Revenue
Sharing**
INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)
GAGNON
TREAT

Committee Report
OTP-AM MAJ
ONTP MIN

Amendments Adopted

LD 1847 proposed to increase the percentage of certain state tax revenues dedicated to state-municipal revenue sharing from 5.1% to 5.5%. The bill also proposed that the amount of revenue dedicated to state-municipal revenue sharing be calculated before any transfers are made from the revenues generated by the taxes subject to revenue sharing.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-651) proposed to change the proposed increase in state-municipal revenue sharing from 5.5% to 5.3%.