

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.

bargaining agent and the harness racing track. Finally, Public Law 1999, chapter 482 establishes a detailed mediation process for the racetrack and the exclusive bargaining agent.

LD 1848

An Act to Require the Display of the Prisoner of War - Missing in Action Flag

PUBLIC 302

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIZMAR BERUBE	OTP-AM	H-369 S-231 MURRAY

LD 1848 proposed to require the Prisoner Of War - Missing In Action flag to be flown above the State House, on a municipal flag pole whenever the flag of the United States is flown and at each reserve and National Guard facility. It also proposed to designate the third Friday in September as Prisoner of War - Missing in Action Recognition Day.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-369) proposed to delete a requirement in the bill that the Prisoner Of War - Missing In Action flag be flown on all municipal flag poles and at Armed Forces reserve facilities. It also added language that makes the display of the Prisoner Of War - Missing In Action flag at municipal offices optional. This amendment added a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-231) proposed, on behalf of the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading, to avoid a conflict with Public Law 1999, chapter 19, which enacted a substantively different provision using an identical statute section number.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 302 requires the Prisoner Of War - Missing In Action flag to be flown above the State House and at Armed Forces reserve facilities. The display of the Prisoner Of War - Missing In Action flag is optional at municipal offices under this law.

LD 1856

An Act Concerning the Distribution of Beer and Wine

ONTP

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

LD 1856 proposed to require that all beer and wine brands or labels distributed by a licensed beer and wine wholesaler to be made available to all retail licensees within that distributor's delivery area. If the brand or label is available to the wholesaler on allocation, then all retail licensees would have been able to purchase the product on a percentage basis under this bill.

LD 1869

An Act to Establish the Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund

ONTP

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