

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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Sen. Susan W. Longley
Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon*

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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.

LD 1885**Resolve, to Create a Task Force to Study Counterfeiting and the Unauthorized Sale of Consumer Goods and Labels****ONTP**Sponsor(s)
KILKELLYCommittee Report
ONTPAmendments Adopted

LD 1885 proposed to establish the Task Force to Study Counterfeiting and the Unauthorized Sale of Consumer Goods and Labels. Under the bill, the task force would study the increasing sale of counterfeit goods in this State and recommend statutory changes, if needed, to ensure appropriate sanctions are imposed on this activity; the offering for sale of certain consumer goods in flea markets that may endanger the health and well-being of the State's consumers; and the use of improper or counterfeit Universal Price Code labels by persons trying to defraud merchants.

LD 1895**An Act to Establish Enterprise Zones to Fund Businesses in Areas of High Unemployment****CARRIED OVER**Sponsor(s)
LAVERDIERE
MILLSCommittee ReportAmendments Adopted

LD 1895 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

The bill proposes to establish enterprise zones in areas of the State in which the unemployment rate exceeds the statewide average unemployment rate by 75% or more. These enterprise zones would receive priority for all state economic development funds. The bill also proposes to establish a fund in the Finance Authority of Maine and finance the fund through bonds issued by FAME. A business located in an enterprise zone could receive loans from the fund, based on criteria established and administered by FAME.

LD 1900**An Act to Give Consumers Restroom Access****ONTP**Sponsor(s)
SNOWE-MELLOCommittee Report
ONTPAmendments Adopted

LD 1900 proposed to require businesses to make restroom facilities available to customers who express an urgent need.

LD 1910**An Act to Promote Economic Development in Central Maine****CARRIED OVER**Sponsor(s)
CAMPBELLCommittee ReportAmendments Adopted

LD 1910 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.