

# 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**

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Beverly C. Daggett, Chair*

*Sen. Richard J. Carey*

*Sen. Norman K. Ferguson, Jr.*

*Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr., Chair*

*Rep. Lillian LaFontaine O'Brien*

*Rep. Nancy L. Chizmar*

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*Rep. Terrence P. McKenney*

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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](http://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
ONT P.....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OT P ND.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
OT P 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.

*David E. Boulter, Director*  
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

LD 1869 proposed to establish the Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund to be administered by the Maine Emergency Management Agency to provide disaster assistance to local governmental units and others to match federal disaster assistance funds, to provide disaster assistance to local governments when federal funds are not available and to further the support of state disaster assistance capabilities.

**LD 1894**

**An Act to Amend the Statutes Regarding Maine Veterans**

**PUBLIC 288**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAGGETT MAYO	OTP-AM	S-150

LD 1894 proposed to clarify that the Maine Veterans' Homes can provide nonnursing facility care and services to eligible Maine veterans, if approved by appropriate federal and state authorities.

The bill also proposed to require that stipend funds received from the federal Veterans' Administration and retained by the Maine Veterans' Homes are to be used primarily for the payment of debt service on the debt payable by the Maine Veterans' Homes.

The bill also proposed to require veterans being discharged from hospitals and nursing facilities and requiring continuing care to receive sufficient notice of the availability statewide of the facilities and services of the Maine Veterans' Homes.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-150)** proposed to remove the requirement that hospitals and nursing facilities inform certain patients of the availability of veterans' services.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 288 provides that the Maine Veterans' Homes can provide nonnursing facility care and services to eligible Maine veterans, if approved by federal and state authorities. This law also requires that stipend received from the federal Veterans' Administration and retained by the Maine Veterans' Homes are to be used primarily for the payment of debt service on the debt payable by the Maine Veterans' Homes.

**LD 1901                      An Act to Prohibit the Scalping of Entertainment Tickets                      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SULLIVAN		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1901, which has been carried over to the Second Regular Session, proposes to make it unlawful to resell a ticket to a sporting event or other public entertainment at a public facility at an inflated price, a practice commonly known as "ticket scalping."

**LD 1903                      Resolve, to Study the Needs of Maine Veterans and Their Families                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GERRY RUHLIN		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1903 proposed to establish the Commission to Study the Needs of Maine Veterans and Their Families. It would have required a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2000.

**LD 1918                      An Act to Change Certain Laws Affecting the State Legislature                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MACK		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1918 proposed to change current law to permit the Governor, a member of the Legislature or any constitutional officer or their staffs to accept campaign contributions up until the second day of January after the Legislature convenes instead of the date on which the Legislature convenes. This bill would have also specified that only lobbyists or lobbyist associates that are registered in this State are prohibited from contributing to campaigns during the time when the Legislature is meeting.

**LD 1932                      An Act to Create the Beano and Games of Chance Commission                      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CAREY		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1932, which has been carried over to the Second Regular Session, proposes to create the Beano and Games of Chance Commission. It is proposing to replace the Chief of the State Police as the administrator of the beano and