

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

***Sen. Carol A. Kontos, Chair
Sen. Susan W. Longley
Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon***

***Rep. Gary L. O'Neal, Chair
Rep. Rosaire J. Sirois
Rep. Verdi L. Tripp
Rep. Ronald E. Usher
Rep. Brian Bolduc
Rep. Jean Ginn Marvin
Rep. David E. Bowles
Rep. Harold A. Clough
Rep. Stavros J. Mendros
Rep. Kevin L. Shorey***

Staff:

Susan Johannesman, Legislative Analyst

***Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670***



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

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.

15. Provide to lessees of trucking equipment, such as a truck or trailer, used in interstate commerce the same sales tax exemption that is currently provided to owners of trucking equipment that is used in interstate commerce. Alternatively, a \$600 maximum would be placed on the sales tax imposed on any such equipment;
16. Require the Department of Environmental Protection to change the regulatory process from an instruction-based approach to a contractual, performance-based approach, thereby rewarding companies and businesses that meet or exceed the environmental objectives established by the department; and
17. Attract high-tech and high-wage jobs. This would be partially accomplished through the appropriation of \$300,000 each to Eastern Maine Technical College and Kennebec Valley Technical College to expand technical education programs in industries needing technically skilled workers.

LD 1917 **An Act to Encourage Growth and Development in Cumberland County** **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GLYNN AMERO	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
-------------------------------------	-------------------------	---------------------------

LD 1917 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 implement legislation to improve economic development opportunities in Cumberland County. It proposes to:

1. Improve the infrastructure;
2. Enhance existing businesses and encourage job growth by providing a dollar-for-dollar reduction of a business' gross income, for purposes of computing income taxes owed by a business, for funds given by an employer to an employee to pay for that employee to attend an accredited Maine school;
3. Encourage investment in Maine businesses by providing a waiver of the capital gains tax to any person who invests a capital gain within 12 months of the realization of that gain in a business or corporation that is based or headquartered in Maine;
4. Attract and provide high-tech and high-wage jobs by providing an appropriation of \$400,000 per year to the Southern Maine Technical College to create or expand technical education programs in industries needing technically skilled workers. A matching contribution of 25% would be sought from the private sector in the form of cash, equipment, materials or scholarship funds; and
5. Promote a stable economic environment through the review of current rules and regulations and taxes and make any necessary changes.

LD 1919 **An Act to Promote Economic Development in Eastern Maine** **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SHOREY CASSIDY	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
--	-------------------------	---------------------------