

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

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.

LD 1986**An Act to Authorize Sly Brook to Secede from Eagle Lake and to Deorganize**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACK	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1986 proposed the secession from Eagle Lake and the deorganization of Sly Brook in Aroostook County, subject to approval at local referendum.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-661), which was not adopted, was the minority report. It proposed to make a minor correction in the section of the bill establishing the effective date of the legislation and to add an appropriation section.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-673), which was not adopted, proposed to remove the requirement that the matter of secession and deorganization go to referendum. The amendment would have added a description of the territory of Sly Brook and also would have clarified which debts of the Town of Eagle Lake and Maine School Administrative District No. 27 are the responsibility of Sly Brook.

LD 2004**An Act to Clarify the Duties of the State Auditor****PUBLIC 208**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BUMPS	OTP	

LD 2004 proposed to make the following changes to the law governing the duties of the State Auditor:

1. To provide that the Department of Audit has authority to conduct financial and compliance audits of financial transactions and accounts kept by or for all state agencies subject to the federal Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996;
2. To eliminate the department's authority to install uniform accounting systems in counties and municipalities;
3. To delete the department's authority to install uniform accounting systems and perform postaudits for probation officers; and
4. To remove references to "postaudits" to more accurately describe the work performed by the department.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 208 amends 5 MRSA §§243 and 244 and makes several changes to existing law governing the authority of the Department of Audit. The law authorizes the Department of Audit to conduct financial and compliance audits of financial transactions and accounts of state agencies subject to the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996. The law also eliminates the department's authority to install uniform accounting systems in counties and municipalities. It eliminates the department's authority to install uniform accounting systems and to perform postaudits for probation officers. Finally, it removes references to "postaudits" to more precisely described the work performed by the department.