

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
JUDICIARY**

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

Sen. Susan W. Longley, Chair

Sen. Sharon Anglin Treat

Sen. John W. Benoit

Rep. Richard H. Thompson, Chair

Rep. Thomas Bull

Rep. Charles C. Laverdiere

Rep. Patricia T. Jacobs

Rep. Charles E. Mitchell

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Rep. David R. Madore

Rep. G. Paul Waterhouse

Rep. William J. Schneider

Rep. Donna M. Loring

Staff:

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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 2014**An Act to Institutionalize Substance Abuse Treatment Courts in Maine****CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)
SAVAGE W
AMERO

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 2014 proposes enabling legislation for the creation of substance abuse treatment courts, also known as "drug courts," throughout the State. The bill also proposes continuing financial support for Cumberland County's "Project Exodus," the one existing substance abuse treatment court in the State.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session.

LD 2022**An Act to Improve the Marketability of Real Estate Titles****PUBLIC 343**

Sponsor(s)
LAVERDIERE

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-507

LD 2022 proposed to provide that a release of all rights by a spouse in a conveyance of property transfers all rights in the property even if the spouse's name was not set forth in the beginning of the deed as a grantor. It proposed to require a person who wishes to preserve rights under a deed entered into before the effective date of the new law to file notice in the registry of deeds and begin a civil action by November 1, 2000.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-507) proposed to add a mandate preamble and a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 343 provides that a release of all rights by a spouse in a conveyance of property transfers all rights in the property even if the spouse's name was not set forth in the beginning of the deed as a grantor. It requires a person who wishes to preserve rights under a deed entered into before the effective date of the new law to file notice in the registry of deeds and begin a civil action by November 1, 2000.

LD 2030**An Act to Implement Recommendations of the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission Relating to Tribal Land Use Regulation****DIED IN CONCURRENCE**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report
ONTP MAJ
OTP MIN

Amendments Adopted

LD 2030 proposed to implement recommendations concerning tribal land use regulation pursuant to Resolve 1997, chapter 45 to clarify that the authority to regulate land use in Indian territory rests with the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation. As proposed, the bill excludes tribal lands in Albany Township.