

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

JULY 2000

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**ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**July 2000**

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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:

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  
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE..... Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote  
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE..... Bill failed to get majority vote  
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT..... Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote  
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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

*David E. Boulter, Director*  
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**LD 2060****An Act to License Home Building Contractors****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NORBERT LONGLEY	ONTP	

LD 2060 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to require home building contractors to be licensed. It also proposed to establish the Board of Home Building Construction to oversee the licensing of home building contractors and home construction supervisors.

**LD 2105****An Act to Improve the Maine Economy Through Small Businesses****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PINGREE ROWE	ONTP	

LD 2105 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to establish the Maine Microenterprise Initiative Fund in the Department of Economic and Community Development. Under the bill, the department would give grants from the fund to community-based organizations providing training, technical assistance and loans to microenterprises. Priority consideration would be given to grant applications that were joint or targeted low-income individuals or areas of high unemployment. The bill would require that grants for loans be accompanied by a certain level of matching funds and adequate technical assistance. The department would adopt rules, subject to legislative review, to establish grant application procedures and criteria. The bill also proposed to appropriate from the General Fund a nonlapsing \$1,500,000 per year of the biennium to the Maine Microenterprise Initiative Fund.

The provisions of this bill were amended and incorporated into the Part II Budget, Public Law 1999, chapter 731, Part VVV.

**LD 2115****An Act to Promote Economic Development in Western Maine****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOOLEY BENOIT	ONTP	

LD 2115 was carried over from the First Regular Session. It was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208 and proposed to implement legislation to improve western Maine. It proposed to:

1. Improve the infrastructure;
2. Enhance existing businesses and encourage job growth;