

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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Sen. Paul T. Davis*

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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 2087

An Act to Establish the Public Resources and Information for Maine Foundation

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KONTOS WATSON		

LD 2087, which was carried over to the Second Regular Session, proposes to establish the Public Resources and Information for Maine Foundation (PRIME). PRIME would provide the State’s citizens with increased access to unbiased information about state government procedures, deliberations and public policy events to promote civic education and to stimulate public dialogue and public participation in State Government. It proposes an appropriation of \$100,000 for fiscal year 1999-00. The bill also would schedule the foundation for review under the State Government Evaluation Act in 2004.

LD 2092

An Act to Require Legislative Approval to Lease Certain Land to the Federal Government

PUBLIC 240

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARR DAVIS P	OTP-AM	H-363 S-225 PENDLETON

LD 2092 proposed to require that the Legislature approve leasing of public land to the Federal Government. Leasing of public land to the Federal Government currently requires only the consent of the Governor and the Commissioner of Conservation. Under current law, the Legislature must approve all sales of public land to the Federal Government.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-363) proposed to clarify the bill's intent that the Legislature approve the leasing of certain lands to the Federal Government. In the absence of a requirement other than a simple majority, the bill did not need to state anything other than that legislative approval would be required.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-225) proposed to insert language into the bill that would clarify that any lease to the Federal Government requires the approval of the Legislature.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 240 extends to the leasing of public land to the Federal Government a requirement that the lease must be approved by the Legislature in addition to the Governor and the Commissioner of Conservation, as was already required under the law. State law already required that all sales of public lands to the Federal Government be approved by the Legislature.

LD 2106

An Act to Allow Nonprofit Corporations to Retain Small Levels of Profits Realized on State Contracts

ONTP

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

LD 2106 proposed to allow nonprofit corporations that contract with the State to provide goods or services to retain up to 5% of any reserve earned under the contract. The bill would have allowed the provider to retain more than this

amount with permission of the contracting state agency. It also proposed to limit the use of the retained earnings by the corporation to fulfilling the requirements of existing state contracts. It would have required the State to give a service provider a six-month notice if it intended to renew an existing contract and to change in any way the provisions of the contract.

LD 2127 **An Act to Allow the Direct Submission to Voters of Municipal Charter Revisions** **ONTP**

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

LD 2127 proposed to allow the submission of a petition for a municipal charter revision directly to the voters in that municipality, without the creation of a charter commission, if specifically requested by the petitioners. A petition submitted in this manner would still have had to meet certain requirements, such as a determination of sufficiency and a public hearing.