

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).

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
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

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;

3. Attract high-tech and high-wage jobs; and
4. Promote a stable economic environment through the review of current rules and regulations and taxes and make any necessary changes.

LD 2142 An Act to Change Laws Pertaining to the Loring Development Authority of Maine DIED BETWEEN BODIES

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

LD 2142 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to reconfigure the composition of the board of trustees for the Loring Development Authority of Maine so that the City of Caribou, the Town of Caswell and the Town of Limestone would each nominate one member to the board; 3 members of the board would be nominated by any other municipality in Aroostook County; and one member would be nominated by the county commissioners of Aroostook County. This bill also proposed to allow the current members of the board of trustees to finish their terms and the reconfigured board to be phased in as the current members' terms expire.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-924) proposed to reconfigure the composition of the board of trustees for the Loring Development Authority of Maine. Under the amendment, 6 of the trustees would be appointed as follows: the City of Caribou, the Town of Limestone, the Town of Caswell, the Town of Fort Fairfield, the City of Presque Isle and the Town of Van Buren would each nominate 1 trustee who was a resident of Aroostook County. If one of these municipalities did not submit a nomination, the Governor would appoint a trustee nominated by any municipality in Aroostook County. One Aroostook County trustee would be nominated by any municipality in Aroostook County, excluding the municipalities specifically identified as a nominating municipality. Four trustees would not be residents of Aroostook County. One trustee would reside anywhere in Maine. Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-1019) proposed to clarify the method for filling vacancies on the board. House Amendment "A" was not adopted.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-604) proposed to clarify that for the 6 specifically identified municipalities, the Governor would appoint a trustee from a list of nominations submitted by the municipality. Senate Amendment "A" was not adopted.

Senate Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-635) proposed to revise the appointment process for the 7 trustees from Aroostook County by requiring the Governor to select 7 trustees from a pool of nominees submitted by the City of Caribou, the Town of Limestone, the Town of Caswell, the Town of Fort Fairfield, the City of Presque Isle, the Town of Van Buren and the county commissioners of Aroostook County. Senate Amendment "B" was not adopted.