

STATE OF MAINE 119TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

JULY 2000

MEMBERS: Sen. Richard P. Ruhlin, Chair Sen. Beverly C. Daggett Sen. S. Peter Mills

Rep. Kenneth T. Gagnon, Chair Rep. Bonnie Green Rep. Thomas M. Davidson Rep. Patrick Colwell Rep. Stephen S. Stanley Rep. David G. Lemoine Rep. Kenneth F. Lemont Rep. Eleanor M. Murphy Rep. John T. Buck Rep. Peter E. Cianchette

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TO: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Taxation

FROM: Julie Jones, Legislative Analyst

DATE: July, 2000

RE: BILL SUMMARIES, 119th LEGISLATURE, 2nd REGULAR SESSION

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation during the 2nd Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The summary describes each bill or order and relevant amendments as well as the final action. Also included is a statistical summary of bill activity by the committee. Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the 2nd Regular Session (unless a later date is specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000. Joint Orders are effective when passed.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the committee this session. It is organized by bill (LD) number and two indices are located at the back of the document that group bills by subject and by LD number. 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 XXXCh. CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE DIED BETWEEN BODIES	
DIED IN CONCURRENCE One body act	cents 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 hill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT	
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT	
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY	
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 RESOLVE 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
READ AND PASSED	Joint Order passed by the House and Senate
PASSED AS AMENDED	Joint Order passed as amendment by the House and Senate

A complete summary of bills for all committees will be available in the very near future. Copies will be on file in the Law and Legislative Reference Library and Senate and House offices. You will also soon be able to access these bill summaries from our website.

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer.

LD 2024 An Act to Establish the Local Option Tax on Liquor, Meals and Lodging

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedGAGNONONTPRAND

LD 2024 was carried over from the First Regular Session. The bill proposed to allow municipalities to adopt a local option tax at a rate not to exceed 2% on liquor, meals and lodging that are provided within the municipal corporate limits. The voters of the town would be required to approve this local tax at a local referendum, unless the municipality has a charter that allows the issuance of municipal bonds without a referendum vote. The tax would apply to the same sales to which the state sales and use tax currently applies. The tax would be administered by the State and revenues less administrative costs would be returned to the municipality where collected. The additional revenue raised by the local option tax would be used by the municipality only to finance specifically approved major capital projects.

LD 2035An Act to Clarify That Sales Catalogs and Fliers are Exempt from
Sales Tax when Purchased for Redistribution at No ChargeONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MILLS	ONTP	

LD 2035 was carried over from the First Regular Session. The bill proposed to provide a sales tax exemption for fliers, bulletins, catalogs or promotional materials purchased for redistribution at no charge.

LD 2101 An Act to Enhance the Maine State College Savings Program INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedPINGREEOTP-AM

LD 2101 was carried over from the First Regular Session. The bill proposed a 10% income tax credit for contributions to a Maine College Savings Program account up to a maximum credit of \$1,500.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-514) proposed to replace the bill with an income tax deduction for 10%, up to a maximum of \$2,000 of contributions to a Maine College Savings Program account.

LD 2122An Act to Base the Rate of Tax Imposed on Married Couples SolelyONTPon Income Earned in this State

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LEMONT	ONTP	

LD 2122 was carried over from the First Regular Session. The bill proposed to provide that the income tax liability of married nonresident individuals be calculated using a rate that is determined based only on income earned in Maine. Deductions, exemptions and credits would be prorated.

The Committee reported this bill out of Committee with a majority" Ought to Pass as Amended" report and a minority "Ought Not to Pass" report. The bill was rereferred to Committee and, on reconsideration, the Committee issued a unanimous "Ought Not to Pass" report.

LD 2207 An Act to Eliminate the Personal Property Tax and Make Other ONTP Changes in the Tax Laws

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
GAGNON	ONTP	_

LD 2207 was carried over from the First Regular Session. The bill was a concept draft that proposed to:

- 1. Eliminate the personal property tax and reimburse municipalities for 100% of the resulting loss of tax revenue through a revenue sharing program separate from current state-municipal revenue sharing;
- 2. Eliminate the sales tax exemption for machinery and equipment used in production;
- 3. Eliminate the business equipment tax reimbursement (BETR) program; and
- 4. Impose a 1% sales tax on ingredients and components used in production.

LD 2256 An Act to Conform the Tax Laws of this State for 1998 With the INDEF PP United States Internal Revenue Code

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
GAGNON	OTP-AM	_

LD 2256 proposed to establish conformity in the Maine income tax laws with federal income tax laws relating to the deduction for health insurance costs for self-employed individuals.

The provisions of this bill were included in the Supplemental Budget Bill, Public Law 1999, chapter 731, Part X. See LD 2510, summarized by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

LD 2277An Act to Conform the Maine Tax Laws for 1999 with the UnitedPUBLIC 548States Internal Revenue CodeEMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
RUHLIN	OTP-AM	