

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

JULY 1999

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Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon*

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Staff:

Susan Johannesman, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

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
ONT P.....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OT P ND.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
OT P 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.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

The bill proposes to implement legislation to improve economic development opportunities in western Maine. It proposes 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 2130

An Act to Extend the Jurisdiction of the Real Estate Commission

ONTP

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

LD 2130 proposed to amend the Real Estate Brokers License Act by expanding the jurisdiction of the Real Estate Commission to supervise and oversee licensed real estate brokers who also engage in property management, rental or leasing of real estate. The bill also proposed to establish a specific standard of cause for disciplinary action that could be imposed against a real estate broker who misrepresents the uses of property that are permitted by municipal, state or federal law. See also LDs 11, 1083, 1176 and 1450.

LD 2142

An Act to Change Laws Pertaining to the Loring Development Authority of Maine

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'NEAL		

LD 2142 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The bill proposes 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 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. The bill also proposes 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.

LD 2155

Resolve, to Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission to Establish a Comprehensive Internet Policy

**RESOLVE 89
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KONTOS TRIPP	OTP-AM	S-303 S-462 PINGREE

LD 2155 proposed to establish the Blue Ribbon Commission to Establish a Comprehensive Internet Policy.

Committee Amendment "A (S-303) proposed to expand the membership and duties of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Establish a Comprehensive Internet Policy. It also added an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the resolve.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-688) proposed to provide the legislative per diem and reimbursement of expenses to members of the commission who are Legislators and to other members not otherwise compensated. This amendment also changed the reporting date of the commission and replaced the appropriation section to reflect the increased cost.

This amendment was not enacted.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-462) proposed to change the membership of the commission and change the method for appointment of chairs of the commission. This amendment also proposed to provide the legislative per diem and reimbursement of expenses to members of the commission who are Legislators. This amendment also changed the reporting date of the commission and provides that the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development may report out a bill.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 89 established the Blue Ribbon Commission to Establish a Comprehensive Internet Policy.

Chapter 89 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 17, 1999.

LD 2163

An Act to Require Contractor Registration

CARRIED OVER

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

LD 2163 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The bill proposes to establish in the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation a comprehensive public register of contractors doing business in the State.

The bill specifies information that the contractor must provide to the department and information that the department must provide to the registrants to ensure that they are aware of all applicable legal and ethical requirements for engaging in their particular business in Maine. The bill proposes to require registrants to renew their registration annually and pay registration fees established by the department to cover the costs of administration of this law. These requirements must be coordinated with any specific licensing or certification requirements with which the contractor must comply. Registration will not be permitted for a contractor whose license, certification or registration has been suspended or revoked in this State or any other state until the period of revocation or suspension is completed and the contractor passes a professional review.

LD 2199

An Act Concerning Licensure of Chiropractors

**PUBLIC 214
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LAWRENCE O'NEAL	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-205 KONTOS
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LD 2199 proposed to include chiropractic acupuncture within the practice of chiropractic. It also proposed to direct the Board of Chiropractic Licensure to adopt rules authorizing and governing the use of chiropractic acupuncture.