

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR**

JULY 2000

MEMBERS:

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Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain III
Sen. S. Peter Mills*

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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

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FULLER KILKELLY	OTP-AM	H-948 H-999 BULL

LD 2185 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to adopt rules to protect public employees from sharp object injuries. The rules would be at least as prescriptive as the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration's standard for protection against bloodborne pathogens. The bill also proposed to establish a fund to provide for research, development and product evaluation of needleless systems and sharp object protection.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-948) proposed to replace the bill and change it to a resolve. The resolve proposed to require the State's Board of Occupational Safety and Health, which regulates public-sector places of employment, to adopt rules that are at least as protective of employees as a November 5, 1999 directive published by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration, or "OSHA." That directive interprets the OSHA bloodborne pathogen regulation.

The amendment also proposed to require the Department of Labor and the Department of Human Services to survey health care providers to collect information on the use of needleless systems and other safe needle devices, as well as on plans to adopt such systems.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-999) proposed to require the departments conducting the survey to include field health care providers, including, but not limited to, emergency medical technicians, in the survey.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 115 requires the State's Board of Occupational Safety and Health to adopt rules relating to bloodborne pathogens in public sector places of employment that are at least as protective as the federal directive governing private sector places of employment. The Resolve also requires the Department of Labor and the Department of Human Services to survey health care providers to collect information on the use of needleless systems and other safe needle devices, as well as on plans to adopt such systems. The departments must submit information collected by the survey in a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters.

Resolve 1999, chapter 115 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 14, 2000.

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

LD 2194 proposed to prohibit investment of public funds in companies doing business with Burma, and to limit the award of public contracts to such companies.