

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

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GAGNE DAGGETT	OTP-AM	H-846

LD 2266 proposed to allow a Maine-registered apprenticeship program to have a maximum of 12 helper or apprentice electricians under direct supervision.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-846) proposed to clarify that the increase in the number of helper or apprentice electricians that a master electrician can supervise applies to apprenticeship programs that are registered by the Department of Labor. The amendment also proposed to increase the maximum total value of each installation from \$2,500 to \$5,000. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 606 allows an apprenticeship program that is registered by the Maine Department of Labor to have a maximum of 12 helper or apprentice electricians under direct supervision of a master electrician while making electrical installations, as long as the total value of each installation does not exceed \$5,000.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KONTOS	OTP-AM	S-526

LD 2279 proposed to do the following:

1. Terminate the SBIR (small business innovation research) technical assistance program and the Centers for Innovation; and
2. Amend the Maine Science and Technology Foundation's duty to solely administer the Maine Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research by directing joint administration of the program with the University of Maine System and the Maine Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research steering committee.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-526) proposed to delete sections of the bill that repealed the Centers for Innovation. The amendment also proposed to move administration for the small business innovation research program to the Maine Technology Institute. It proposed to provide for staggered terms for the Board of Directors of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation and it proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 608 moves administration for the small business innovation research program to the Maine Technology Institute. It directs joint administration of the Maine Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research by the Maine Science and Technology Foundation, the University of Maine and the Maine EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) steering committee. It changes appointments to the board of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation to 3 year terms. It requires the Maine Science and Technology Foundation to manage an interactive web-based clearinghouse of science and technology information.

LD 2344 An Act to Repeal the Nondiscrimination in Pharmaceuticals Pricing PUBLIC 574
Law

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BRUNO		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2344 proposed to repeal the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 117, subchapter 10 of the Maine Pharmacy Act, which requires unitary pricing of pharmaceuticals.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 574 repeals the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 117, subchapter 10 of the Maine Pharmacy Act, which requires unitary pricing of pharmaceuticals.

LD 2359 An Act to Clarify the Authority of the State Board of Optometry PUBLIC 607
EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KONTOS		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-527
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LD 2359 proposed to allow the State Board of Optometry to hire independent staff as may be necessary to conduct the business of the board.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-527) proposed to provide that the authority of the State Board of Optometry to hire clerical personnel is subject to the Civil Service Law. It also proposed to add an allocation section and a fiscal note.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 607 authorizes the State Board of Optometry to hire clerical personnel subject to the Civil Service Law.

Public Law 1999, chapter 607 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 31, 2000.