

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON
RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT**

JULY 2000

MEMBERS:

Sen. Carol A. Kontos, Chair

Sen. Peggy A. Pendleton

Sen. Richard A Bennett

Rep. Scott W. Cowger, Chair

Rep. Kathleen A. Stevens

Rep. Paul L. Tessier

Rep. Verdi L. Tripp

Rep. Elizabeth Watson

Rep. Albion D. Goodwin

Rep. Irvin G. Belanger

Rep. Ken Honey

Rep. Glenys P. Lovett

Rep. James H. Tobin, Jr.

Staff:

Susan Johannesman, Legislative Analyst

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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

Joint Select Committee on Research and Development

LD 1528

An Act to Encourage Funding for Applied Research and Development Relevant to the Maine Economy

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> ROSEN		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1528 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to establish the Applied Research and Development Fund to be used for applied research and development relevant to the Maine economy. Under the bill, the fund would receive annual General Fund appropriations equivalent to one percent of actual General Fund revenue for the previous year. The bill also proposed to establish an organization responsible for making awards from the fund and created a 12-member governing board to oversee the activities of the organization.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-927) proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to set forth the intent of the Legislature to provide the equivalent of at least 1% of total actual General Fund revenue of the previous fiscal year for research and development relevant to the State's economy. It also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

LD 2287

An Act to Expand the Maine Technology Institute Board

PUBLIC 541

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TESSIER		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2287 proposed to add the President of the Maine Technical College System, or the president's designee, to the Board of Directors of the Maine Technology Institute.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 541 adds the President of the Maine Technical College System, or the president's designee, to the Board of Directors of the Maine Technology Institute.

LD 2297

An Act to Appropriate Funds to Match a Federal Department of Energy Research and Development Award

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KONTOS COWGER		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2297 proposed to appropriate \$750,000 for fiscal year 2000-01 to match an anticipated federal award for the Maine Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, a federal-state partnership to

build research capacity in 18 states that have traditionally received a low proportion of federal research funding.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-547) proposed to provide that funds appropriated to match the anticipated federal award for the Maine EPSCoR Program revert to the General Fund if the anticipated federal award is not received. It also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

LD 2365

An Act to Enhance Biomedical Research in Maine

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KONTOS	OTP-AM MAJ	
BRUNO	ONTP MIN	

LD 2365 proposed to earmark a portion of the State's tobacco settlement fund to be used in the Maine Biomedical Research Program. Under the bill, the program would be administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development and would provide funding to Maine-based nonprofit institutions to conduct biomedical research.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-599) proposed to clarify that program funds are intended to support biomedical research in the State. It also proposed to clarify that the formula for the allocation of funds must guarantee a certain minimum allocation only to eligible institutions that have applied for program funds. It also proposed to include in the group of eligible institutions those institutions that meet the minimum requirement of \$1,000,000 from federal or foundation sources by including funding that is received as a result of participation in biomedical research directly to that participating institution or in combination with other institutions. It also proposed to require recipients of program funds to submit any information required under a comprehensive research and development evaluation. It also capped funding of the program at \$10,000,000 per year. The amendment also proposed to add an appropriation section, an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill. Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-976) proposed to move the allocation of funds from the Fund for a Healthy Maine to an appropriation from the General Fund. House Amendment "A" was not adopted.

The provisions of this bill were incorporated into the Part II Budget, PL 1999, chapter 731, Part SSS.

LD 2396

An Act to Create a Patent Program in Maine

INDEF PP

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

LD 2396 proposed to create the Maine Patent Program to assist Maine companies, inventors and entrepreneurs in the patent process.