

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

JULY 2000

MEMBERS:

Sen. Peggy A. Pendleton, Chair

Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait

Sen. Paul T. Davis

Rep. Douglas J. Ahearne, Chair

Rep. Martha A. Bagley

Rep. Benjamin L. Rines, Jr.

Rep. John F. McDonough

Rep. Joanne T. Twomey

Rep. Randall L. Bumps

Rep. Susan Kasprzak

Rep. Arlan R. Jodrey

Rep. Earl E. Richardson

Rep. Belinda A. Gerry

Rep. Donald G. Soctomah

Staff:

Christopher Spruce, Legislative Analyst

Danielle D. Fox, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

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
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

LD 2275

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Work Center Product and Services Set Aside

PUBLIC 543

Sponsor(s)
WESTON

Committee Report
OTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 2275 proposed to amend the definition of "work center" to be consistent with the Federal Government and provider direction. It would accomplish this by removing from State statute a requirement that a work center be a rehabilitation facility or part of such a facility and would broaden the definition of work centers to include private sector businesses. LD 2275 not only proposed to continue a requirement that a program provide vocational rehabilitative services to individuals with disabilities, but also proposed to support the current practice of encouraging rehabilitation providers to offer services in a competitive and integrated environment. The bill also proposed to improve the representation on the Work Center Purchases Committee of disabled persons by increasing to 5 the number of persons with disabilities on the committee.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 543 amends the definition of "work center" to be consistent with the Federal Government and provider direction. It accomplishes this by removing from State law a requirement that a work center must be a rehabilitation facility or part of such a facility and by broadening the definition of work center to include private sector businesses. The law not only continues to require that a program provide vocational rehabilitative services to individuals with disabilities, but also supports the current practice of encouraging rehabilitation providers to offer services in a competitive and integrated environment. Public Law 1999, chapter 543 also increases the representation of persons with disabilities on the Work Center Purchases Committee. The number of such persons was increased to a minimum of 5 of the board members.

LD 2300

An Act to Make Minor Changes to the Community Development Definitions to Maintain Compatibility with Federal Regulations

PUBLIC 540

Sponsor(s)
DAGGETT

Committee Report
OTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 2300 proposed to change the definition of "blighted area" from an area with a predominance of buildings needing improvement to an area with a substantial number of buildings that need improvement. This proposed change to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 31-A, chapter 104 would mirror current Federal law.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 540 updates the State's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program guidelines to mirror Federal guidelines. It does this by changing the definition of "blighted area" from an area with a predominance of buildings needing improvement to an area with a substantial number of buildings that need improvement. The change will increase the number of areas in the State that could

be so designated and thus eligible for the CDGB funds. The law also makes other minor wording changes to Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, chapter 104.

LD 2309 **Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to Transfer or Acquire Property or Interests in Property at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy, Oak Grove Coburn School in Vassalboro and Maine State Prison in Thomaston** **RESOLVE 97**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PENDLETON	OTP-AM	S-550

LD 2309 proposed to authorize the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to acquire or release easements, rights-of-way and other interests in property at the Oak Grove Coburn School in Vassalboro in order to contribute to the value and efficient functioning of the facility.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-550), proposed to amend the resolve by limiting the authority of the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to transfer or to acquire interests in property to nonfee interests such as easements or rights-of-way. The amendment also proposed to include as property subject to the resolve the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Waterville and the Maine State Prison in Thomaston. It also amends the title to reflect those additional properties. The amendment also proposed to repeal the resolve 3 years after its effective date.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 97 authorizes the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to transfer or acquire nonfee interests such as easements or rights-of-way in state-owned property at the Oak Grove Coburn School in Vassalboro, the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Waterville and the Maine State Prison in Thomaston. The authority granted in the resolve is automatically repealed 3 years from the resolve's effective date.

LD 2319 **Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to Sell or Lease the Interests of the State in the Maine State Prison in Thomaston** **RESOLVE 114**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
AHEARNE	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-862

LD 2319 proposed to authorize the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to sell or lease the Maine State Prison in Thomaston.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-862), which was adopted, proposed to amend the resolve by extending the repeal date of the resolve from 3 years to 5 years from its effective date.