

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

JULY 2000

Staff:

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**Office of Fiscal and Program Review
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TO: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
 FROM: J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst
 DATE: July, 2000
 RE: **BILL SUMMARIES, 119th LEGISLATURE, 2nd REGULAR SESSION**

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs during the 2nd Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The summary describes each bill or order and relevant amendments as well as the final action. Also included is a statistical summary of bill activity by the committee. Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the 2nd Regular Session (unless a later date is specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000. Joint Orders are effective when passed.

The bill summaries for your committee also include 4 bills that, although discussed in work sessions, were never referred. LD's 2589, 2646, 2664 and 2692 were discussed as part of your committee process and are therefore included in this document for your information.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the committee this session. It is organized by bill (LD) number and two indices are located at the back of the document that group bills by subject and by LD number. 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
READ AND PASSED Joint Order passed by the House and Senate
PASSED AS AMENDED..... Joint Order passed as amendment by the House and Senate

A complete summary of bills for all committees will be available in the very near future. Copies will be on file in the Law and Legislative Reference Library and Senate and House offices. You will also soon be able to access these bill summaries from our website.

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer.

LD 2203

An Act to Appropriate Funds for the Welfare-to-work Program

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PARADIS	ONTP MAJ	
ROWE	OTP MIN	

LD 2203 proposed to provide a General Fund appropriation of \$3,900,000 in fiscal year 1999-00 for the Department of Labor for the Welfare-to-Work program, a federal grant program to assist states in providing job placement services, transitional employment and support services to welfare recipients. The proposed appropriation would have allowed the State to access \$7,800,000 in matching federal funds.

While this bill was reported Ought Not to Pass, a General Fund appropriation for the Welfare to Work Program of \$350,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 was included in Public Law 1999, Chapter 731, Part HHHH-3.

LD 2302

An Act to Appropriate Funds to Build the Capitol Park Connector Trail

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COWGER	ONTP MAJ	
DAGGETT	OTP MIN	

LD 2302 proposed to provide a General Fund appropriation of \$75,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 to provide funds to the City of Augusta to build the Capitol Park Connector Trail and a retaining wall from Capitol Park to the Kennebec River Rail Trail.

LD 2336

Resolve, to Provide Funds to the Bureau of Veterans' Services to Enhance the Efficiency of Regional Field Offices in Delivering Services to Veterans

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-780

LD 2336 proposed to implement one of the recommendations of the Committee to Study Standardized Periods of Military Service and Other Matters Related to the Award of State of Maine Veterans' Benefits. This resolve proposed to provide a General Fund appropriation of \$115,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 for the Department of Defense, Veterans' and Emergency Management to restore funding for support staff positions in the Bureau of Veterans' Services regional field offices that were eliminated in the budget cuts of 1990. The personal services funds would have supported the hiring of one new support staff position in the bureau's Springvale office and increase from part-time positions to full-time positions the support staff in 4 other regional offices. The resolve also proposed to provide the bureau funds to purchase new computers and software for the regional offices. The funds also would have provided computer training to regional office staff members.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-780) proposed to provide a position-legislative count of 3.000, to revise the personal services amount to \$90,416 and to clarify that the new position established in the resolve is an Account Clerk II position.

LD 2337 Resolve, to Provide Funds to Assist in the Expansion of the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System DIED ON ADJOURNMENT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-775

LD 2337 proposed to implement one of the recommendations of the Committee to Study Standardized Periods of Military Service and Other Matters Related to the Award of State of Maine Veterans' Benefits. It would have provided a General Fund appropriation of \$65,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 to the Department of Defense, Veterans' and Emergency Management for additional operating funds for the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System to support expansion of the system.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-775) proposed to add a fiscal note to the resolve.

While this bill died on adjournment, a working capital advance of \$100,000 was provided in fiscal year 2000-01 in Public Law 1999, chapter 731, Part DDD for the Department of Defense, Veterans' and Emergency Management to establish the Northern Maine Veterans' Cemetery.

LD 2343 Resolve, to Establish the Task Force to Reduce the Burden of Home Heating Costs on Low-income Households RESOLVE 132 EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY R MICHAUD	OTP-AM	H-841 S-773 MICHAUD

LD 2343 proposed a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$4,500,000 to the Maine State Housing Authority for the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program in anticipation of a projected shortfall during the 1999-2000 winter season.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-841) proposed to create the Task Force to Reduce the Burden of Home Heating Costs on Low-income Households and included a General Fund appropriation of \$5,720 to the Legislature in fiscal year 2000-01 for expenses of the task force.

House Amendment "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-977) proposed to limit the authority of the task force to reporting out a "bill" rather than "legislation." This amendment also proposed that submission of the report is "for" rather than "to" the 120th Legislature.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-773) proposed to clarify the appointment of members to the Task Force to Reduce the Burden of Home Heating Costs on Low-income Households and proposed to reduce the General Fund appropriation to the Legislature by \$3,540 in fiscal year 2000-01.