

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
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

JULY 2000

Staff:
Susan Johannesman, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

MEMBERS:

*Sen. Carol A. Kontos, Chair
Sen. Susan W. Longley
Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon*

*Rep. Gary L. O'Neal, Chair
Rep. Rosaire J. Sirois
Rep. Verdi L. Tripp
Rep. Ronald E. Usher
Rep. Brian Bolduc
Rep. Jean Ginn Marvin
Rep. David E. Bowles
Rep. Harold A. Clough
Rep. Stavros J. Mendros
Rep. Kevin L. Shorey*



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

Public Law 1999, chapter 685 makes the following changes to various occupational licensing board statutes:

1. It increases the fee cap on physician and physician assistant license renewal;
2. It increases the license fee caps for the Board of Funeral Service, the Oil and Solid Fuel Board, the State Board of Certification of Geologists and Soil Scientists, the State Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors, the Maine Athletic Commission and athletic trainers;
3. It authorizes the Director of the Office Licensing and Registration within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to set fees by rule for the Board of Funeral Service, the Oil and Solid Fuel Board, the State Board of Certification of Geologists and Soil Scientists, the State Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors, the Maine Athletic Commission and the Board of Licensure of Podiatric Medicine;
4. It establishes a fee cap for transient sellers of consumer goods and door-to-door home repair transient sellers;
5. It increases the gate tax for the Maine Athletic Commission; and
6. It changes the renewal cycle from biennial to annual for the State Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors and adjusts the mandatory continuing education hours for renewal to correspond with the change in the renewal cycle.

LD 2395

An Act Concerning Disclosure Requirements Under the Used Car Information Laws

**PUBLIC 617
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)
SAXL M

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-880

LD 2395 proposed to maintain the past statutory requirement that automobile collision damage that costs more than \$1,500 to repair must be disclosed to consumers.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-880) proposed to provide that car dealers need not disclose substantial collision damage unless the cost of repairing it exceeds \$2,000. This amendment also proposed to create a cross-reference to maintain consistency between the Motor Vehicle Code and the Insurance Code relative to accidents. This amendment also proposed to set the effective date at 30 days after approval and proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 617 amends the used car information laws to provide that collision damage must be disclosed to consumers if the cost of repairing the damage exceeds \$2,000. It also amends the Automobile Insurance Cancellation Control Act by permitting an insurer to choose not to renew a personal automobile insurance policy when a named insured or other person insured under the policy is individually or aggregately involved in two or more vehicle accidents while operating a motor vehicle insured under the policy resulting in either personal injury or property damage in excess of the amount defined as a reportable

accident in the Motor Vehicle Code. These amendments were necessary to correct indirect results of PL 1999, chapter 61 which amended the Motor Vehicle Code by increasing the monetary amount of property damage for which a motor vehicle accident must be reported.

Public Law 1999, chapter 617 was enacted as an emergency measure and approved on April 3, 2000 to take effect 30 days later.

LD 2433 **An Act to Penalize a Company that Does Not Submit the Report
Required by Law Regarding State Assistance** **ONTP**

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

LD 2433 proposed to withhold further state subsidies from a private company that has received a state subsidy and has not followed required reporting procedures.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-925) was the minority report and proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

LD 2441 **An Act to Provide Flexibility in the Distribution of Funds by the
Department of Economic and Community Development** **PUBLIC 612**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'NEAL MACKINNON	OTP-AM	H-884

LD 2441 proposed to remove the requirement that funds in the Community Industrial Buildings Fund be distributed to separate rural and urban accounts.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-884) proposed to remove the responsibility of marketing and promoting community buildings from the Department of Economic and Community Development. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 612 removes the requirement that funds in the Community Industrial Buildings Fund be distributed to separate rural and urban accounts. It also removes the responsibility of marketing and promoting community buildings from the Department of Economic and Community Development.