

# 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:***

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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](http://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

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.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-939)** proposed to change the administration of the Maine Patent Program from the Secretary of State to the Center for Advanced Technology Law and Management in the University of Maine System. The amendment also proposed to require the Center for Advanced Technology Law and Management to submit a report on the performance of the program by December 1, 2001. Finally, the amendment proposed to change the appropriation from \$100,000 to \$300,000 and proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

The provisions of this bill were incorporated into the Part II Budget, Public Law 1999, chapter 731, Part WWW.

**LD 2631**

**An Act to Amend the Comprehensive Research and Development Evaluation**

**INDEF PP**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 2631 proposed to require the Maine Science and Technology Foundation to prepare an initial evaluation of state investments in research and development by July 1, 2001 and proposed to change the date for each subsequent 5-year evaluation from the first day of each legislative session to July 1st. The bill also proposed to require recipients of state research and development funding to submit certain information on the research and development activity to the Maine Science and Technology Foundation in order to assist the foundation in preparing the comprehensive evaluation. Finally, the bill proposed to appropriate \$145,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 to the Maine Science and Technology Foundation for preparation of the initial research and development evaluation.

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