

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR**

JULY 2000

MEMBERS:

*Sen. Neria R. Douglass, Chair
Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain III
Sen. S. Peter Mills*

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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).

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

An Act to Amend Requirements for Maine Technical College System Employees Participating in a Defined Contribution Plan

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HATCH DOUGLASS	OTP-AM	H-895

LD 2410 proposed to amend the Maine State Retirement System law pertaining to the defined contribution plan for Maine Technical College System employees in accordance with recent reduction in Maine State Retirement System vesting requirements from 10 to 5 years.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-895) proposed to clarify proposed language in the original bill regarding use of the term “vesting” The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 614 amends the law establishing a defined contribution retirement plan option for certain employees of the Maine Technical College System to be consistent with the reduction from 10 to 5 years of the amount of creditable service necessary to qualify for a Maine State Retirement System benefit, which was enacted last year. The requirement that eligible MTCS employees who are members of the Retirement System and who do not have at least 10 years of creditable service must apply for a refund of accumulated contributions to the Retirement System is changed to say that any member who has less than the number of years of creditable service required for eligibility for a benefit must seek a refund.

An Act to Limit the Duration that Businesses May Hire Employees as Temporary Employees

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HATCH DOUGLASS	ONTP	

LD 2416 proposed to prohibit a business from hiring a temporary employee for a period greater than 90 days, unless the temporary employee is filling in for a permanent employee on family medical leave.

An Act to Correct Inconsistencies of the Taxable Wage Amount in the Unemployment Compensation Law

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HATCH	OTP	

LD 2419 proposed to amend a definition in the unemployment compensation law to reflect the change in the taxable wage amount from \$7,000 to \$12,000, which was made in the First Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.