

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

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

**JULY 2000**

***MEMBERS:***

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***Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait***

***Sen. Paul T. Davis***

***Rep. Douglas J. Ahearne, Chair***

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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

the Maine Historic Preservation Commission develop and recommend to the Legislative Council and to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters a more formalized, permanent process through which to handle future requests for adding new plaques, flags or other commemorative items to the State House Hall of Flags. The Historic Preservation Commission must report in writing on its proposal to the committee and the Executive Director of the Legislative Council by December 15, 2000. The law also authorizes the joint standing committee having jurisdiction over state and local government matters to report out legislation based on the commission's recommendations in the First Session of the 120th Legislature.

**LD 2480**

**An Act to Allow Police Assistance in Emergency Situations**

**PUBLIC 654**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MURPHY E	OTP-AM MAJ	H-908
LAWRENCE	ONTP MIN	

LD 2480 proposed to allow a police department to respond to a request for assistance from another police department when there is no liability agreement if the assistance is for a major unplanned incident, in which case liability remains with the responding department except for command or operational decisions made by the requesting department. Current law allows one police department to assist another police department only if their respective municipalities have preexisting agreements concerning liability.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-908)**, proposed to clarify the meaning of a "major unplanned incident."

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1999, chapter 654, except where expressly prohibited by municipal ordinance or policy, allows a police department to respond to a request for assistance from another police department when there is no preexisting liability agreement among the departments if the assistance is for a major unplanned incident. The law specifies that when the response is for a major unplanned incident, the liability remains with the responding department except for command or operational decisions made by the requesting department. Public Law 1999, chapter 654 also defines a "major unplanned incident" for the purposes of the chapter.

**LD 2507**

**An Act to Establish a Commemorative Day Recognizing Major-General Henry Knox**

**PUBLIC 666  
EMERGENCY**

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

LD 2507 proposed to establish a commemorative day recognizing Major-General Henry Knox of Thomaston, who was a Revolutionary War general and hero and Secretary of War under President George Washington.