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

Rep. Pamela Henderson Hatch, Chair Rep. Roland B. Samson Rep. Zachary E. Matthews Rep. Roger D. Frechette Rep. Albion D. Goodwin Rep. Christopher T. Muse Rep. Russell P. Treadwell Rep. Jay MacDougall Rep. Adam Mack Rep. Gerald M. Davis

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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, <u>History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents</u>, 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
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House & Senate disagree; bill died
	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	EEmergency 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	
INDEF PP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
<i>OTP ND</i>	
OTP ND/NT	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special LawChapter # of enacted Public Law
PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED	Bill held by Governor Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto
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.

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
DOUGLASS	OTP-AM	MAJ	S-577
	ONTP	MIN	

LD 2498 proposed to establish standards and policies for the Department of Labor in the implementation of the federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA), including requirements that service be provided on a first-come, first-served basis and that training and job placement be based on developing self-sufficiency. It also proposed to specify that a person engaged in training under the WIA does not lose eligibility for unemployment compensation benefits.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-577) proposed to strike the provisions of the bill establishing standards and policies for the Department of Labor and the local workforce investment boards to follow in implementing the federal Workforce Investment Act. It also proposed to amend the section providing that a person in training under the Workforce Investment Act is deemed to be in approved training for purposes of qualifying for unemployment benefits, by providing that the law is not effective if inconsistent with federal law.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 705 provides that a person in training under the federal Workforce Investment Act is deemed to be in approved training for purposes of qualifying for unemployment benefits, but provides that the law is not effective if inconsistent with federal law.

LD 2561

An Act to Ensure Access to Specialists for Injured Workers

DIED BETWEEN BODIES

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
GOODWIN	OTP	MAJ	_
MILLS	ONTP	MIN	

LD 2561 proposed to require an employer to pay for treatment of an injured worker by a specialist until the Workers' Compensation Board rendered a decision on the employer's appeal. If the Board determined that the employer was not required to pay for the treatment, the employer could recover the costs from the employee.