

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

**JULY 2000**

**Staff:**

**J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst**

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Rep. Richard A. Nass**



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TO: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs  
 FROM: J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst  
 DATE: July, 2000  
 RE: **BILL SUMMARIES, 119th LEGISLATURE, 2nd REGULAR SESSION**

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs during the 2nd Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The summary describes each bill or order and relevant amendments as well as the final action. Also included is a statistical summary of bill activity by the committee. Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the 2nd Regular Session (unless a later date is specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000. Joint Orders are effective when passed.

The bill summaries for your committee also include 4 bills that, although discussed in work sessions, were never referred. LD's 2589, 2646, 2664 and 2692 were discussed as part of your committee process and are therefore included in this document for your information.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the committee this session. It is organized by bill (LD) number and two indices are located at the back of the document that group bills by subject and by LD number. 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*  
*READ AND PASSED ..... Joint Order passed by the House and Senate*  
*PASSED AS AMENDED..... Joint Order passed as amendment by the House and Senate*

A complete summary of bills for all committees will be available in the very near future. Copies will be on file in the Law and Legislative Reference Library and Senate and House offices. You will also soon be able to access these bill summaries from our website.

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer.

development or application of advanced technologies, that provide a product or service sold or projected to be sold predominantly outside the State or that otherwise bring capital into the State.

It proposed to transfer funds that have revolved back into the Economic Recovery Program Fund to the Maine Economic Development Venture Capital Revolving Investment Program Fund.

PART C proposed to appropriate funds to the Department of Economic and Community Development for an information technology manager to work with the Maine Business Works program.

PART D proposed to appropriate funds to the Department of Economic and Community Development to allow the department to contract with a field representative to serve in a currently underserved and economically depressed area.

PART E proposed to direct the Maine Rural Development Council to provide advocacy for the social and economic needs of rural Maine communities and to develop community capacity building projects, and it proposed to appropriate \$125,000 to the council. The Maine Rural Development Council is a quasi-independent state agency whose members are representatives from intergovernmental and interagency associations concerning rural development issues.

PART F proposed to establish the Maine Microenterprise Initiative Fund in the Department of Economic and Community Development for grants to community-based organizations providing training and technical assistance to microenterprises. The department would be required to adopt rules to establish grant application procedures and criteria. The bill proposed to appropriate from the General Fund a nonlapsing \$1,000,000 to the Maine Microenterprise Initiative Fund.

PART G proposed to establish the Regional Economic Development Assistance Fund in the Department of Economic and Community Development for grants to nonprofit community organizations providing local or regional economic development programs. The bill proposed to appropriate \$500,000 from the General Fund to the fund.

PART H proposed to amend the law creating the Agricultural Products Utilization Commission by authorizing the commission to identify issues related to the development of agriculturally derived fuel industries in Maine, to identify agriculturally derived fuel development programs and to analyze the potential for agriculturally derived fuel production in Maine. It also proposed to add the chief executive officer of the Finance Authority of Maine to the commission membership and add a requirement to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development matters.

PART I proposed to appropriate funds to the Maine Technical College System for a pilot program for the Aroostook County Machine Tool Program.

While this bill was reported Ought Not to Pass, General Fund appropriations totaling \$1,500,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 were included in Public Law 1999, Chapter 731, Part VVV to enhance economic development in the State of Maine.

**LD 2692**

**An Act to Make Emergency Appropriations or Allocations in Fiscal Year 1999-00 only for the Emergency Items**

**PUBLIC 732  
EMERGENCY**

LD 2692 proposed to make emergency appropriations and allocations for fiscal year 1999-00 and make specific changes to Maine Law.

***Enacted Law Summary:***

Public Law 1999, chapter 732 does the following, summarized below by part and section:

| <b><u>PART</u></b> | <b><u>SECTION</u></b> | <b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b>   |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|
| A                  | A-1                   | Supplemental General Fund Appropriations/Deappropriations   |
|                    | A-2                   | Supplemental Federal Expenditures Fund Allocations/Deallocations  |
|                    | A-3                   | Supplemental Other Special Revenue funds Allocations/Deallocations  |
|                    | A-4                   | Supplemental Alcoholic Beverage Fund Allocations  |
| B                  | B-1                   | General Fund Appropriations for Reclassifications   |
|                    | B-2                   | Federal Expenditures Fund Allocations for Reclassifications   |
|                    | B-3                   | Other Special Revenue funds Allocations for Reclassifications   |
|                    | B-4                   | Federal Block Grant Fund Allocations for Reclassifications  |
|                    | B-5                   | Central Motor Pool Allocations for Reclassifications  |
| C                  | C-1                   | General Fund Deappropriations to fund Reclassifications   |
| D                  | D-1                   | Establishes Legislative intent that unallocated disaster assistance funds may be used as match for claims associated with federally approved disasters in Maine (Also see PL 1999, c. 731, Part I, Section I-1)   |
| E                  | E-1                   | Authorizes the extension of one limited-period Program Director position at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf to June 30, 2001  |
| F                  | F-1                   | Implements the modified accrual method of accounting for Corporate Income Tax, Cigarette and Tobacco Tax, Estate Tax and the Real Estate Transfer Tax (Also see PL 1999, c. 731, Part E, Section E-1)   |
|                    | F-2                   | Recognizes payments to the Estate Tax Suspense account as General Fund revenue beginning in fiscal year 2000-01 and recognizes the balance in the account at the end of fiscal year 1999-00 as General Fund revenue (Also see PL 1999, c. 731, Part E, Section E-2) |
| G                  | G-1                   | Transfers \$14,662,083 from the Telecommunications Personal Property Tax Reserve to General Fund unappropriated surplus to offset elimination of the prepayment of the tax (Also see PL 1999, c. 731, Part F, Section F-5)  |
| H                  | H-1 - H-3             | Eliminates the prepayment of the Telecommunications Personal Property Tax beginning in fiscal year 1999-00 (Also see PL 1999, c. 731, Part W)   |

- |   |     |   |
|---|-----|---|
| I | I-1 | Lapses \$719, 935 to the General Fund equal to the amount reserved for the hospital assessment repealed June 30, 1998 (Also see PL 1999, c. 731, Part EE, Section EE-1)         |
|   | I-2 | Provides an additional General Fund appropriation to pay for additional claims under the Maine Residents Property Tax Program (Also see PL 1999, c. 731, Part EE, Section EE-2) |

Chapter 732 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 25, 2000.