

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Business and Economic Development*

May 2002

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Maine State Legislature
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120th Legislature
Second Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 2002

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name 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:

<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>OTP ND/NT</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i>	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is July 25, 2002.

Patrick T. Norton, Interim Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development

LD 2212

An Act to Create the Maine Rural Development Authority

PUBLIC 703

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

H-1086 RICHARDSON

S-559 SHOREY

LD 2212 proposed to establish the Maine Rural Development Authority as a quasi-governmental agency with the purpose of providing loans to communities for the construction of commercial facilities and leading the development or redevelopment of commercial facilities in areas where economic need has not been met by private investment.

The authority would assume the administration of the community industrial building program currently administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development and the authority's operations would be dependent upon funding.

House Amendment "A" (H-1072), which was not adopted, proposed to clarify that the Department of Economic and Community Development would be responsible for the expenses necessary to establish the Maine Rural Development Authority and that the authority's ongoing operations and expenses are subject to other funding. The amendment also proposed to correct technical errors in the bill.

House Amendment "B" (H-1086), which was adopted, proposed to correct an ambiguity in the structure of the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-559), which was adopted, proposed changes to the bill identical to House Amendment "A."

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 703 establishes the Maine Rural Development Authority as a quasi-governmental agency with the purpose of providing loans to communities for the construction of commercial facilities and leading the development or redevelopment of commercial facilities in areas where economic need has not been met by private investment. The law requires the authority to assume the administration of the community industrial building program that has been administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development and the authority's operations are dependent upon funding, which is proposed in a bond issue to be submitted to the voters in November 2002. The Department of Economic and Community Development is responsible for the expenses necessary to establish the Maine Rural Development Authority, but the authority's ongoing operations and expenses are subject to other funding.

HP 1702

JOINT ORDER, Relative to the Task Force to Study Regulatory Barriers to Affordable Housing

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

SULLIVAN

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

HP 1702 proposed to establish a 13-member task force to study regulatory barriers to affordable housing. The task force would have been charged with finding ways to reduce regulatory barriers to affordable housing and provide incentives for the creation and availability of affordable housing consistent with the legitimate concerns of local

Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development

communities for healthy neighborhoods, sound environmental practices, sustainable affordability and inclusive communities. The task force would have been required to submit its findings, recommendations and any proposed legislation to the Legislative Council by November 6, 2002.