

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Appropriations And Financial Affairs*

May 2002

Members:

Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait, Chair

Sen. Mary R. Cathcart

Sen. S. Peter Mills

Rep. Randall L. Berry, Chair

Rep. Richard H. Mailhot

Rep. Paul L. Tessier

Rep. Joseph C. Brannigan

Rep. David M. Etnier

Rep. Sharon Libby Jones

Rep. Richard A. Nass

Rep. Tom J. Winsor

Rep. Irvin G. Belanger

Rep. Richard W. Rosen

Staff:

J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst

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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 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.

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
PASSED..... Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 July 25, 2002.

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

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

This bill was a carry over from the 1st Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

LD 42

An Act to Fund the Endowment Incentive Fund

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BAKER CATHCART	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-782 H-891 MCKEE

LD 42 proposed an appropriation of \$14,000,000 to the Endowment Incentive Fund.

Committee Amendment “B” (H-782) was the minority report. It proposed to reduce the amount of the General Fund appropriation for the Endowment Incentive Fund from \$14,000,000 to \$100,000. It also proposed to add a fiscal note.

House Amendment “B” to Committee Amendment “B” (H-891) proposed to remove the emergency preamble and emergency clause and delay the funding provided to the Endowment Incentive Fund from fiscal year 2001-02 to fiscal year 2002-03.

This bill was a carry over from the 1st Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

LD 79

An Act to Reinstate Tax Deductibility of Qualified Long-term Care Insurance

PUBLIC 679

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KANE GAGNON	OTP-AM	H-811

LD 79 proposed to change tax deductions and credits for long-term care insurance to require that policies be certified by the Superintendent of Insurance.

Committee Amendment “B” (H-811) proposed to provide an income tax deduction for persons purchasing long-term care insurance certified by the Superintendent of Insurance and tax credits for employers who provide that insurance for their employees.

This bill was a carry over from the 1st Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary:

Public Law 2001, chapter 679 expands tax deductions and credits for long-term care insurance to include policies certified by the Superintendent of Insurance.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 456

**Resolve, to Increase Access and Support Student Success at
Maine's Technical Colleges**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MICHAUD MH SAXL	ONTP	S-211

LD 456 proposed to provide a continued appropriation that would enable the technical colleges to continue the incremental growth plan passed by the 119th Maine Legislature. These funds would be used to increase enrollment by 500 students, strengthen academic counseling and student outreach and establish a dedicated fund for necessary investments in classroom and laboratory equipment.

Committee Amendment “A” (S-211) proposed to increase the amount of the appropriation, continue the Pulp and Paper Technology program at Kennebec Valley Technical College and add a fiscal note to the resolve.

This resolve was a carry over from the 1st Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

LD 457

**An Act to Clarify that the Sales Tax Exemption for Purchase of
Manufacturing Equipment Applies Equitably**

PUBLIC 709

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MICHAUD MH GREEN	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-412 S-598 GOLDTHWAIT

LD 457 proposed to include radio and television broadcast signals in the definition of “tangible personal property” for the purposes of the sales tax.

Committee Amendment “B” (S-412) proposed to move the changes provided by the bill from a definition section in the law to a sales tax exemption section in the law to accomplish the intent of the bill more effectively. This amendment also proposed to limit the new exemption to machinery and equipment used in the production of digital television broadcast signals purchased from January 1, 2001 to June 30, 2003 and clarify that the exemption would apply only to signals transmitted over the air by a television station. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment “A” to Committee Amendment “B” (S-598) proposed to limit the sales tax exemption proposed in the bill to machinery and equipment used in the production of digital television broadcast signals purchased from March 1, 2003 to June 30, 2003; clarify that during the period from March 1, 2003 to June 30, 2003 the exemption apply only to signals transmitted over the air by a television station; and after June 30, 2003, expand the exemption to all equipment and machinery used to produce radio and television broadcast signals.

This bill was a carry over from the 1st Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.