

# 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*

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*Rep. Richard A. Nass*

*Rep. Tom J. Winsor*

*Rep. Irvin G. Belanger*

*Rep. Richard W. Rosen*

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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](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:

<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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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 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 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session of the 120<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session of the 120<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

## Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

### *Enacted Law Summary:*

Public Law 2001, chapter 709 expands the sales tax exemption for machinery and equipment used:

1. In the generation of digital television broadcast signals, for sales from March 1, 2003 to July 2003; and
2. In the generation of all radio and television broadcast signals (excludes cable television transmission), for sales after June 30, 2003.

Public Law 2001, chapter 709 was vetoed by the Governor on April 17, 2002, and the veto was overridden by the Legislature on April 24, 2002.

**LD 472**

**Resolve, to Establish a Fatherhood Issues Study Commission**

**RESOLVE 121**

Sponsor(s)  
TESSIER

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
H-852

LD 472 was a concept draft that proposed to establish a study commission to examine various issues associated with being a father in Maine.

**Committee Amendment “B” (H-852)** proposed to replace the original concept draft with a resolve to create the Commission on Fatherhood Issues consisting of 9 members appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The commission would study issues concerning the barriers to being an involved father in Maine. In addition to looking at specific issues, the commission would also identify and develop strategies to improve the parenting abilities of fathers.

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

### *Enacted Law Summary:*

Resolve 2001, chapter 121 establishes a study commission to examine various issues associated with being a father in Maine and provides funds for the per diem and expenses of legislative members and the reimbursement of necessary expenses of public members of the Commission on Fatherhood Issues, as well as printing and mailing costs.