

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

August 2001

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**120th Legislature
First Regular Session**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 2001**

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 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, 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:

CARRIED OVER..... *Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session*
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*

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is **September 21, 2001**.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs

LD 550 **Resolve, to Amend the National Guard Education Assistance Pilot Program** **RESOLVE 20 EMERGENCY**

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|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> FISHER | | <u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-232 |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|

LD 550, a resolve, proposed to amend the National Guard Education Assistance Pilot Program by granting a tuition grant to a National Guard member who attends a private college or university up to 100% of the private college or university tuition or the tuition at a state postsecondary education institution, whichever is less.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-232) changed the tuition rate benchmark from any state postsecondary education institution to the University of Maine for determining tuition reimbursement for National Guard members who attend accredited private colleges or universities.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2001, chapter 20 expands the National Guard Education Assistance Pilot Program to provide for a tuition grant to a National Guard member who attends a private college or university. The amount of reimbursement would be the lesser of the tuition rate at the University of Maine or the lesser of the rate at the private college or university.

Resolve 2001, chapter 20 was passed as an emergency measure effective May 15, 2001.

LD 563 **An Act to Require Towns to Process Initiative and Referendum Petitions within One Week of Delivery** **ONTP**

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|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAEL | | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|

LD 563 proposed to require municipalities to process local or state initiative and local referendum petitions within one week after delivery.

LD 564 **An Act to Encourage Indelible Ballot Markings** **ONTP**

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|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAEL | | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|

LD 564 proposed to prohibit clerks from sending out pencils with absentee ballots.