

# 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](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:

*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 565**                      **An Act to Discourage Drunken Driving**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAEL		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 565 proposed to prohibit a person licensed to sell beer and wine for consumption off of the licensed premises for less than 5% over the wholesale price. It also proposed to require that the licensee sell malt liquor packaged only in a 6-pack or case.

**LD 569**                      **An Act to Preserve the Integrity of the Polling Place by Limiting the Physical Presence of Candidates**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAEL		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 569 proposed to limit a candidate's activities at polling places to voting. As proposed, the candidate would be prohibited from stating the name of the office sought by the candidate or requesting a person's vote within 250 feet of the polling place or registrar's office.

**LD 574**                      **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Reduce the Number of Signatures Required for Citizen Initiatives**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAEL		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 574 proposed to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that the number of signatures required on a petition to directly initiate legislation be not less than 6% of the total vote for Governor cast in the last gubernatorial election. The currently required percentage is 10%.

**LD 575**                      **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Allow Maine Citizens to Propose Constitutional Amendments by Initiative**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAEL		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 575 proposed to amend the Constitution of Maine to permit citizens to initiate amendments to the Constitution of Maine. Under this bill, as proposed, a citizen-initiated amendment to the Constitution requires approval by 2/3