

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Criminal Justice*

May 2002

Staff:

*Marion Hylan Barr, Legislative Analyst
Jon Clark, Senior Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670*

Members:

*Sen. Michael J. McAlevey, Chair
Sen. William B. O'Gara
Sen. Paul T. Davis, Sr.*

*Rep. Edward J. Povich, Chair
Rep. Michael W. Quint
Rep. Charles E. Mitchell
Rep. Lillian LaFontaine O'Brien
Rep. Patricia A. Blanchette
Rep. Stanley J. Gerzofsky
Rep. Judith B. Peavey
Rep. Edgar Wheeler
Rep. James H. Tobin, Jr.
Rep. Lois A. Snowe-Mello*



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

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 Criminal Justice

LD 601

An Act to Provide for Relief from Mandatory Minimum Sentences in Certain Cases

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 601, which was carried over from the First Regular Session, proposed to grant a judge authority to deviate from a mandatory minimum sentence and a mandatory minimum fine in certain circumstances and proposed to repeal the mandatory minimum sentences for aggravated trafficking, furnishing or cultivation of scheduled drugs. LD 601 proposed to give a court authority to deviate from statutory mandatory minimum sentences if the gravity of the offense was not diminished or if the public's safety was not adversely affected and if imposing the mandatory sentence would be a substantial injustice and would frustrate the general purposes of sentencing. The bill proposed that, in deviating from imposing a minimum sentence, a court must consider a number of factors, including: the offense, a victim's wishes, prospects for offender rehabilitation and offender age and physical and mental condition.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-434) was the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice. The amendment proposed to specify that a court may not suspend or deviate from a mandatory minimum sentence or mandatory minimum fine for violations of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. This amendment was not adopted.

LD 611

An Act to Aid Implementation of the Maine Medical Marijuana Act of 1998

PUBLIC 580

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RAND QUINT	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-451

LD 611 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill was jointly referred to the Health and Human Services Committee and the Criminal Justice Committee and proposed to create a pilot program allowing one medical marijuana distribution center in the State. The center would be incorporated as a nonprofit entity managed and overseen by a diverse community group. In particular, this bill proposed the following.

1. A single nonprofit center, referred to herein as the "center," would be incorporated for the purpose of cultivating and distributing medical marijuana to individuals qualified under the Maine Medical Marijuana Act of 1998. The center would also be authorized to distribute and/or lend cultivation equipment, supplies and seeds to qualified individuals for cultivation for personal use.
2. The center would be overseen and managed by a community board made up of a wide range of individuals drawn from the community area of the center's site. Members of the community board might include members drawn from the following groups: law enforcement, current and former