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

<u>Members</u>:
Sen. Neria R. Douglass, Chair
Sen. Chandler E. Woodcock
Sen. Lynn Bromley

Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr., Chair
Rep. Nancy L. Chizmar
Rep. Lillian LaFontaine O'Brien
Rep. Stephen C. Estes
Rep. William R. Cote
Rep. John L. Patrick
Rep. Janice E. Labrecque
Rep. Arthur F. Mayo, III
Rep. Theodore H. Heidrich
Rep. Richard H. Duncan

<u>Staff</u>:
Danielle D. Fox, Legislative Analyst
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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, <u>History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents</u>, 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 850   **An Act to Place the State in Compliance with the Federal Hatch Political Activity Act**   **ONTP**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
CRESSEY	ONTP	
DAVIS P		

LD 850 proposed to amend state law to comply with the federal Hatch Political Activity Act that prohibits federal employees from engaging in political activity and from being a candidate for public office. As proposed, a state employee could not be a candidate for state or federal office regardless of whether or not the candidate is representing a political party.

LD 867   **Resolve, to Establish A Study Commission to Study Redistricting**   **ONTP**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
TRAHAN	ONTP	

LD 867 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This resolve proposed to establish a study commission to study redistricting. Under this resolve, the commission would consist of an equal number of Democrats and Republicans.

LD 901   **An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Term Limits**   **DIED BETWEEN BODIES**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
TUTTLE	OTP-AM	MAJ	
DAGGETT	OTP-AM	MIN	

LD 901 proposed to extend the number of years of service authorized under the term limits law from 8 to 12 years for Legislators, the Secretary of State, the Treasurer of State and the Attorney General and from 8 to 12 years for the State Auditor. The bill also proposed to require that the voters of the State vote on this matter at the statewide election held in the year 2001.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-286), which was not adopted, was the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs. It proposed to remove provisions from the original bill that extend the term limits for the Secretary of State, the Treasurer of State, the Attorney General and the State Auditor. It also proposed to remove the provision that submits the extended term limits proposal to the voters. As proposed, the provisions which extend the number of terms a Legislator may serve from 4 to 6 are maintained.