

# 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*

**Staff:**

*Danielle D. Fox, Legislative Analyst  
Colleen McCarthy Reid, Legislative Analyst*

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

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**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  
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

have required that citizen initiative petitions include an economic and environmental impact statement prepared by the Executive Department, State Planning Office. It proposed to retain the provision that would require the Secretary of State to hold a public hearing on the wording of the ballot question.

**LD 978**

**Resolve, to Create the Commission to Study the Relationship  
Between Alcohol Sales and Substance Abuse in the State of Maine**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'BRIEN J	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 978, a resolve, proposed to create the Commission to Study the Relationship Between Alcohol Sales and Substance Abuse in the State of Maine.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-443)**, which was not adopted, proposed to direct the Substance Abuse Services Commission to study the relationship between alcohol sales and substance abuse.

**LD 1034**

**An Act to Establish Uniform Election Filing Deadlines for  
Legislative and Gubernatorial Candidates**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SIMPSON DOUGLASS	ONTP	

LD 1034 proposed to make the filing deadlines for legislative and gubernatorial races the same for enrolled and unenrolled candidates.

**LD 1035**

**An Act to Require Proof of Liquor Liability Insurance Upon  
Demand by a Municipality**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LEMOINE GAGNON	ONTP	

LD 1035 proposed to authorize municipalities and unincorporated places to require from an applicant for a liquor license proof of liquor liability insurance with minimum coverage of \$50,000 before approval of an application for a liquor license is granted. The bill would have required the insurance policy to include a provision that would require the insurer to notify the municipality or unincorporated place of a lapse in coverage. Any lapse in coverage would result in automatic revocation of a liquor license. If the licensee could show proof of new insurance or give good cause as to the reason for the lapse, the revocation would be withdrawn.