

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
State and Local Government*

May 2002

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Maine State Legislature
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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 State and Local Government

LD 562

An Act to Allow Municipalities to Create Capital Improvement Districts

PUBLIC 521

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ANDREWS LEMONT	OTP-AM	H-822

LD 562 proposed to authorize municipalities to create a capital improvement district for the purpose of making an infrastructure improvement that primarily serves the property owners of the district. The bill also proposed to establish the process for creating and operating the district. It also proposed to establish the process for assessing costs of the improvement. The bill was carried over from the First Regular Session.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-822) proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to authorize municipalities to create capital improvement districts. A capital improvement district is a defined area within a municipality that is initially privately owned and that has been designated by the municipality as a capital improvement district for the interrelated purposes of fairly apportioning the costs of making necessary improvements among the owners of property within the district and establishing the elements of the capital improvement district that are municipally owned. This amendment proposed provisions for establishing capital improvement districts including the required series of public hearings that must be held and the manner in which public votes on the proposed district must be executed prior to establishing a capital improvement district.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 521 authorizes municipalities to create capital improvement districts. A capital improvement district is a defined area within a municipality that is initially privately owned and that has been designated by the municipality as a capital improvement district for the interrelated purposes of fairly apportioning the costs of making necessary improvements among the owners of property within the district and establishing the elements of the capital improvement district that are municipally owned. The law details the series of public hearings and capital improvement district and municipal referenda that must be conducted to implement a capital improvement district.

LD 1118

An Act to Reduce Unnecessary Paperwork in State Government

PUBLIC 495

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKENNEY TURNER	OTP-AM	H-790

LD 1118 proposed to establish the Paperwork Reduction Act that would have provided that similar or identical information and data required to be reported periodically to state agencies or departments by businesses operating in the State be reported to a single agency, the agency of record. The agency of record is the agency or department of State Government that first required a business operating in this State to report information or data during a reporting period established by law or rule. The bill also proposed that requests for additional information by a state agency be made through the agency of record and that a business disclose the identity of the agency of record to any state agency requesting that information. The bill was carried over from the First Regular Session.

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Committee Amendment "A" (H-790) replaced the bill and proposed to amend the State Government Evaluation Act to provide that agencies undergoing legislative review pursuant to that act must submit to the committee conducting the review a list of the various filings by the public that the agency requires. The amendment also proposed that, in conducting its analysis and developing its recommendations, a legislative committee may consider the extent to which an agency has increased or decreased filing requirements and paperwork duplication burdens on the public. It also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 495 amends the State Government Evaluation Act in an effort to identify areas where paperwork reduction may be needed. Chapter 495 requires that agencies undergoing legislative review pursuant to that act must submit to the committee conducting the review a list of the various filings by the public that the agency requires. The amendment also specifies that, in conducting its analysis and developing its recommendations, a committee may consider the extent to which an agency has increased or decreased filing requirements and paperwork duplication burdens on the public.

LD 1218 **An Act to Amend the Calculation for Annual County Tax Assessments** **ONTP**

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

LD 1218 proposed to require the county commissioners to calculate the budget cost of non-contracted rural sheriff patrol services in proportion with those services provided to municipalities and unorganized territories in the county. The bill was carried over from the First Regular Session to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-803), which was not adopted, proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1549 **An Act to Amend the Organization of Washington County Government** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODWIN SHOREY	ONTP	

LD 1549 proposed to direct the county commissioners in Washington County to report to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government with a plan for hiring a county administrator and increasing the number of county commissioner districts from 3 to 5 in Washington County. This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session.