

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
120th Legislature*

*First Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
State and Local Government*

*August 2001*

**Members:**

*Sen. Peggy A. Pendleton, Chair  
Sen. Edward M. Youngblood  
Sen. Margaret Rotundo*

*Rep. Martha A. Bagley, Chair  
Rep. John F. McDonough  
Rep. Paul R. Hatch  
Rep. Paul J. Lessard  
Rep. Janet L. McLaughlin  
Rep. Susan Kasprzak  
Rep. Eleanor M. Murphy  
Rep. Peter D. Chase  
Rep. Anita P. Haskell  
Rep. Philip Cressey, Jr.*

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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 State and Local Government

LD 1083 proposed to allow a state agency to use a purchase order to procure lodging and to permit a hotel, motel or other establishment that provides lodging to bill a state agency directly in connection with a state employee who travels on state business.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 120 provides that a hotel, motel or other lodging establishment may directly bill a state agency for services provided to a state employee traveling on state business. A state agency may use a purchase order to procure lodging.

**LD 1116**                      **An Act to Honor Maine's French Heritage**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAEL		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1116 proposed to establish both English and French as the official state languages.

**LD 1118**                      **An Act to Enact the Paperwork Reduction Act**                      **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCKENNEY TURNER		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1118 proposed to establish the Maine Paperwork Reduction Act. The bill proposed to require 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 bill proposed that the agency or department of State Government that historically was the first to require a business operating in this State to report information or data during a reporting period established by law or rule be identified as the agency of record. 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.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 120<sup>th</sup> and the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government established a subcommittee to work with the sponsor and interested parties to develop an amended version of the bill during the interim.

**LD 1131**                      **An Act to Allow Municipalities to Advertise Legal Notices in Weekly Newspapers**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> NASS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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## Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

LD 1131 proposed to allow municipalities to fulfill their legal notice obligations under Title 1, section 601 of the Maine Revised Statutes by publishing legal notices in a publication distributed by 3<sup>rd</sup> Class mail providing that the municipal officers have adopted a publication policy. Under the proposed bill, the policy would have to meet the following 3 requirements: The newspaper of general circulation would have a subscription rate of less than 25% of the residents in the municipality; all households in the municipality would receive the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class publication; and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class publication would cost less than the newspaper of general circulation.

**LD 1145**                      **Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to Sell or Lease the Interests of the State in the Jacob Abbott House Property Located at the Stevens School Campus in Hallowell**                      **RESOLVE 60**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PENDLETON		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-60
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LD 1145 proposed to authorize the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to sell or lease the Jacob Abbott House and transfer the Reed Auditorium in Hallowell with a suitable amount of land.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-60)**, proposed to strike and replace the title of the resolve. This amendment also proposed to strike section 3 of the original resolve and to amend the resolve to authorize the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to sell or lease the Jacob Abbott House property in Hallowell with a suitable amount of land. It also proposed to add a fiscal note to the resolve.

### *Enacted law summary*

Resolve 2001, chapter 60 authorizes the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to sell or lease the Jacob Abbott House property in Hallowell with a suitable amount of land. The resolve is repealed 3 years from its effective date.

**LD 1146**                      **An Act to Give the Legislative Council Discretion in Appointing Members to the Revenue Forecasting Commission**                      **PUBLIC 2  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAUD MH BRUNO		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1146, which was not referenced to a standing committee, proposed to change the composition of the Revenue Forecasting Committee by removing the member who is an analyst from the Office of Fiscal and Program Review and replacing that member with another member of the Legislature's nonpartisan staff familiar with revenue estimating issues. Under the bill, this new member was to be appointed by the Legislative Council.

### *Enacted law summary*