MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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State Of Maine 120th Legislature

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

Joint Standing Committee on Labor

August 2001

Members:

Sen. Betheda G. Edmonds, Chair Sen. Karl W. Turner Sen. W. Tom Sawyer, Jr.

Rep. George H. Bunker, Jr., Chair Rep. Zachary E. Matthews Rep. Deborah J. Hutton Rep. Jacqueline R. Norton Rep. William J. Smith Rep. Frank J. Tarazewich Rep. Russell P. Treadwell Rep. Jay MacDougall Rep. Gerald M. Davis 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, <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 | Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses |
| CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE | |
| | House & Senate disagree; bill died |
| | accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill |
| DIED ON ADJOURNMENT | Action incomplete when session ended; bill died |
| FMFRGFNCY | Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days |
| FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAG | E Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote |
| FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE | |
| FAILED MANDATE FNACTMENT | Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote |
| NOT PROPERLY REFORE THE RODY | Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died |
| INDEE DE | Rill Indefinitely Postnored |
| ONTP | Bill Indefinitely Postponed Ought Not To Pass report accepted |
| OTP ND | |
| OTD ND/NT | Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title |
| DLC VVV | |
| DIDIIC VVV | Chapter # of enacted Public I au |
| DECOIVE VVV | Chapter # of finally passed Deschie |
| INGICNED | Chapter # of enacted Public LawChapter # of finally passed ResolveBill held by Governor |
| VETO CICTAINED | But neta by GovernorLegislature failed to override Governor's Veto |
| VEIU SUSIAINED | Legisiaiure jailea to overriae 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.

Joint Standing Committee on Labor

LD 1102 An Act to Address the Critical Shortage of Teachers and School Administrators in Maine Public Schools

ONTP

| Sponsor(s) | Committee Report | Amendments Adopted |
|------------|------------------|--------------------|
| RICHARD | ONTP | |
| GAGNON | | |

LD 1102 proposed to allow retired teachers, school administrators and other licensed or certified educational employees to return to work for up to 3 years in a school in the capacity in which they are certified or licensed. During that time, they would receive full retirement benefits from the Maine State Retirement System. No additional service credit toward retirement is accrued during that time.

See also similar LDs 1255, 1314 and 442. Ld 1255 was enacted.

LD 1169 An Act to Amend the Requirements of the Workers' Compensation

ONTP

Law

| Sponsor(s) | Committee Report | Amendments Adopted |
|------------|------------------|--------------------|
| TURNER | ONTP | _ |
| FOSTER | | |

LD 1169 proposed to change the method of determining the duration of workers' compensation benefits for partial and total incapacity.

LD 1175

An Act to Require that Benefits for Disability be Continued During a Period of Vocational Rehabilitation under the Workers' Compensation Act VETO SUSTAINED

| Sponsor(s) | Committee Report | | Amendments Adopted |
|------------|------------------|-----|--------------------|
| PINEAU | OTP-AM | MAJ | Н-365 |
| | ONTP | MIN | S-302 EDMONDS |

LD 1175 proposed to ensure that an injured worker who is in rehabilitation under the Workers' Compensation Law is presumed to be eligible for total disability benefits for as long as that employee continues in that rehabilitation program.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-365) proposed to limit application of the bill to employees in full-time rehabilitation programs.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-302) proposed that an injured employee in full-time rehabilitation is presumptively entitled to partial incapacity benefits.