

# 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.*

**Staff:**

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**Maine State Legislature**  
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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 1177**

**An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Election of Somerset County Commissioners**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
MCGLOCKLIN

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1177 proposed to amend the current laws governing the election of Somerset County commissioners to permit all of the voters in the county, regardless of the commissioner district in which they reside, to vote for each member of the county commission. Although all eligible voters of the county would be allowed to vote for each commissioner candidate under the bill, the bill would not have dissolved the 3 existing county commissioner districts. Commissioner candidates also would still be required to reside in their respective commissioner districts.

**LD 1218**

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

**CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)  
DORR

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1218 proposed to require that when county commissioners in each county apportion the annual county tax that they calculate and assess the cost of non-contracted rural sheriff patrol services in proportion to which those services are provided to each municipality and unorganized territory in that county. The bill would provide additional statutory authority to allow counties and municipalities to discuss and develop funding formulas for the assessment of sheriff patrol costs. The Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government voted to carry over the bill to the Second Regular Session of the 120<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

**LD 1220**

**An Act to Require Notice of Use Changes for State Property**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
TRAHAN  
MILLS

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1220 proposed that an agency of the State be required to publish a 30-day notice when it intends to change all or part of its use of any real property owned by the State or subject to a long-term lease or right-of-way claim by the State. Under the bill, if 25 or more residents petitioned the agency during the notice period, the change would have been prohibited unless the Legislature approved the change by law.