

# 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*

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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*  
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## Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 309 requires the Commissioner of Public Safety to provide flag holders and Maine flags for the gravesites of the officers listed on the law enforcement memorial, located in the State Capitol complex memorial site, if the gravesites can be reasonably found. It establishes the Flags For Public Servants Fund, to fund the costs of providing the flags and flag holders and it also requires that this fund be the sole revenue source for the flag and flag holder purchases. Public Law 2001, chapter 309 also requires that the agency that represented the slain officer place the flag holder and flag at the gravesite.

### **LD 1202**

#### **An Act to Allow Families to Request Flags for Deceased Police Officers and Firefighters that have not Died in the Line of Duty**

ONTP

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

LD 1202 proposed to authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to present a state flag to the family of a deceased firefighter or law enforcement officer.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-166)**, which was not adopted, proposed to clarify the size of the flag the Commissioner of Public Safety would be required to present to the family of a deceased firefighter or law enforcement officer upon request by the family of the deceased.

### **LD 1228**

#### **An Act to Support the Right to Associate**

ONTP

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

Current law states that a party is eligible to nominate a candidate in an election if, among other things, the party's candidate for Governor or President received at least 5% of the total vote cast in one of the 2 preceding general elections. Current law also states that a party may nominate a candidate if the party, among other things, files a petition signed by the number of citizens equal to 5% of the total vote cast for Governor in one of the 2 preceding gubernatorial elections. LD 1228 proposed to lower those thresholds from 5% to one percent.