

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

*State Of Maine  
120th Legislature*

*First Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Labor*

*August 2001*

**Staff:**

*Deborah C. Friedman, Senior Analyst  
David C. Elliott, Principal Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
13 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670*

**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.*



**Maine State Legislature**  
**OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013  
 Telephone: (207) 287-1670  
 Fax: (207) 287-1275

**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 Labor

**LD 1245**                      **An Act to Require the State to Pay Medicare Costs for Retired State Employees and Retired Teachers**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 1245 proposed to require the State to pay Medicare Part B premiums for state retirees and retired teachers.

LD 152, a similar bill, was passed in the House but died on the Appropriations Table.

**LD 1246**                      **An Act to Increase the Penalty for a Violation of Certain Occupational Health and Labor Laws**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MATTHEWS EDMONDS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
--	--	---------------------------------	--	---------------------------

LD 1246 proposed to require the Department of Labor to debar from participation in state contracts for 5 years any person, partnership, corporation or other public or private entity found to have committed a serious, willful violation or serious, repeated violations of a standard under the United States Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, the National Labor Relations Act or the federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

**LD 1247**                      **An Act to Increase the Minimum Wage in Maine**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MATTHEWS EDMONDS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
--	--	---------------------------------	--	---------------------------

LD 1247 proposed to increase the state minimum wage from \$5.15 per hour to \$5.65 per hour beginning October 1, 2001 and to \$6.25 per hour beginning October 1, 2002. See also LD 121 and LD 1591.

**LD 1253**                      **An Act to Require an Annual Benefit Adjustment**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MATTHEWS EDMONDS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
--	--	---------------------------------	--	---------------------------

LD 1253 proposed to require an annual cost-of-living adjustment to workers' compensation benefits.