

# 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

LD 1250

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Registration of Voters

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOOLEY	ONTP MAJ	
WOODCOCK	OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1250 proposed to require that a person register to vote not later than 30 days before an election.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-387)**, which was not adopted, proposed to decrease the amount of time before an election in which a person would be allowed to register to vote from 30 days, as proposed by the original bill, to 48 hours. As with the original bill, this amendment proposed to remove the provisions in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A that permit election day registration of voters.

**LD 1273**

An Act to Repeal the Presidential Preference Primary Elections

**DIED BETWEEN  
BODIES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODWIN	OTP MAJ	
WOODCOCK	OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1273 proposed to repeal the presidential preference primary elections process.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-556)**, which was not adopted, was the minority report of the Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs. It proposed to amend the presidential preference primary process by allowing political parties to choose whether they want a primary or a caucus. This bill also proposed to permit the parties to determine whether their candidates are nationally advocated or recognized as a presidential candidate in order for their names to be placed on the ballot. The amendment also proposed to repeal the provision allowing a candidate to appear on a presidential preference primary ballot by petition.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-317)**, which was not adopted, proposed to replace the original bill and provide that when the state committee of a political party certifies that there is a contest among candidates for nomination as the presidential candidate of the party and has notified the State of its intent to participate in a presidential primary election, the State shall hold a presidential primary election.

LD 1296

An Act to Permit the Purchase of Wine by Mail Order

ONTP

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

LD 1296 proposed to allow an out-of-state shipper to ship up to 24 bottles of wine per month directly to a resident of this State who is 21 years of age or older for that resident's personal use.