

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Labor*

August 2001

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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).

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 Labor

LD 1399

An Act to Require Reporting of Activities under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998

PUBLIC 366

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MATTHEWS		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-634
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LD 1399 proposed to require that at least 1/3 of all federal funds received by the State under the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 be used for education and skills training. It further proposed to require that at least 15% of funds be used for support services such as child care and transportation for individuals enrolled in an education or training program. It also proposed to require that the Maine Department of Labor annually provide the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters with certain information related to expenditure of funds and program outcomes under the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-634) proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to delete the provision requiring that a certain portion of federal money be used for training and support services. It also proposed to revise the reporting requirement to provide better information in a more feasible format. The amendment proposed to require the Department of Labor to submit an interim report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor by January 15, 2002.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 366 requires the Maine Department of Labor to annually provide the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters with certain information related to expenditure of funds and program outcomes under the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998. It requires the Department of Labor to submit an interim report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor by January 15, 2002.

LD 1413

An Act to Transfer Administration of Certain Reimbursement Functions of the Workers' Compensation Employment Rehabilitation Fund to a Voluntary Coalition of Parties in Interest

PUBLIC 448

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MILLS		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-309
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LD 1413 proposed to transfer administration of a portion of the Employment Rehabilitation Fund from the Workers' Compensation Board to a 5-member Supplemental Benefits Oversight Committee. The Oversight Committee would administer the function of reimbursing insurers and self-insurers for payments they made to injured employees as a result of (1) the law extending the duration of benefit payments for partial incapacity, section 213, subsection 3 of the Workers' Compensation Act of 1992; and (2) the law that entitles persons with a disability of less than 15% but more than the threshold amount (currently 11.8%) to benefits for the duration of the disability, pursuant to section 213, subsection 4 of the Act. The Fund is funded by an assessment on insurers and self-insurers.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-309) proposed to divide the Employment Rehabilitation Fund into 2 separate funds, change the membership of the 5-person board, clarify several matters relating to the board and its members,