

# 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:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i> .....	<i>Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i> .....	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i> .....	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i> .....	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i> .....	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i> .....	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i> .....	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i> .....	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i> .....	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i> .....	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP ND</i> .....	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>OTP ND/NT</i> .....	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i> .....	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> .....	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

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 320 eases the limitation on off-track betting facilities that simulcast interstate races. Prior to enactment of this law, off-track betting facilities could simulcast interstate races only if there were 150 live races conducted at the state's commercial tracks during the previous calendar year. Public Law 2001, chapter 320 permits an off-track betting facility to simulcast interstate races if the state's commercial tracks conducted 150 live races during the preceding two calendar years.

**LD 1460**

**An Act to Establish a Deadline for New Voter Registrations**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CLOUGH WOODCOCK	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1460 proposed to require that a person register to vote not later than 10 days before an election.

**LD 1495**

**An Act to Establish the Maine Military Authority**

**PUBLIC 374  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DOUGLASS BELANGER	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-246
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LD 1495 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposed to establish the Maine Military Authority under the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Military Bureau to operate the Loring Rebuild Center located at the former Loring Air Force Base.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-246)** amended the concept draft and established the Maine Military Authority to operate and expand the existing Maine Readiness Sustainment Maintenance Center now located at the former Loring Air Force Base.

This amendment provided several transition provisions applicable to employees of the Maine Military Authority. The amendment provided that employees who are hired after the effective date of this law have the same rights and benefits as transferred employees, with the exception that transferred employees retain certain limited residual rights within the executive branch. The amendment provided that employees hired before and after the establishment of the authority are members of the state employee health plan and the regular state employee plan of the Maine State Retirement System.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 374 establishes the Maine Military Authority under the Department of Defense, Veterans, and Emergency Management. The Maine Military Authority will operate the existing Maine Readiness

## Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs

Sustainment Maintenance Center located at the former Loring Air Force Base. The primary purpose of the authority is to maintain, rebuild, repair, store and manufacture equipment for the state, the United States Departments of Army, Air Force, Navy, Treasury and for foreign governments in conjunction with the Foreign Military Sales Program of the United States Department of Defense. This state operation is completely reimbursed with federal funds.

Revenue generated by the Authority must be first used to support the Authority. Other unexpended balances may be transferred to any other non-General Fund state account of the Military Bureau including but, not limited to, capital repair and maintenance of state armories and Maine National Guard Tuition Assistance. The Authority may acquire public and private monies and property.

Employees of the former Maine Readiness Sustainment Maintenance Center shall be transferred to the Maine Military Authority and are members of the Maine State Retirement System and the state employee health plan. Employees of the Authority are not subject to the civil service laws but are state employees.

Books and records of the authority are confidential but subject to audit and open for inspection by the state and federal governments.

Public Law 2001, chapter 374 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 8, 2001.

**LD 1517**                      **Resolve, to Create a Commission to Review the Landlord-tenant Laws in the State**                      **DIED ON ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LONGLEY	OTP-AM    MAJ ONTP        MIN	S-229

LD 1517 proposed to create a commission to review and recommend updates of the landlord-tenant laws in the State.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-229)** proposed to clarify that the 3 members of the Commission to Review Landlord-tenant Laws established in this resolve that are landlords and the 3 members that are tenants can either be landlords or a representative of a landlord or tenants or a representative of the tenant.

The bill was enacted in the House but died in the Senate on the Appropriations Table upon adjournment.

**LD 1518**                      **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Concerning Direct Initiative of Legislation**                      **ONTP**

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