### MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## State Of Maine 120th Legislature

#### First Regular Session

#### **Bill Summaries**

# Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

August 2001

#### Members:

Sen. Anne M. Rand, Chair Sen. Michael J. McAlevey Sen. Norman K. Ferguson, Jr.

Rep. Charles C. LaVerdiere, Chair Rep. Thomas D. Bull Rep. Patricia T. Jacobs Rep. Charles E. Mitchell Rep. Christopher T. Muse Rep. Deborah L. Simpson Rep. David R. Madore Rep. G. Paul Waterhouse Rep. Stavros J. Mendros Rep. Roger L. Sherman

Rep. Donna M. Loring

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## Maine State Legislature OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

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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, <u>History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents</u>, 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	Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE.	
	accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
FMERGENCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE	EEmergency 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 REFORE THE RODY	Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEE DD	Rill Indefinitely Postnoved
ONTP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP ND	
OTD ND/NT	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
D L C VVV	
DIDIIC VVV	Chapter # of enacted Frivate & Special Law
DECOLUE VVV	Charten # of English and Books
RESULVE AAA	Chapter # of enacted Public LawChapter # of finally passed ResolveBill held by Governor
VETO CUCTANED	Bill neld by Governor
YEIU SUSIAINED	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.

#### **Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary**

LD 1573

An Act to Enact the Uniform Principal and Income Act of 1997

**CARRIED OVER** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
NORBERT		
RAND		

LD 1573 proposed to amend the Probate Code to include the Uniform Principal and Income Act of 1997, adopted by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws in 1997. The Act provides rules for handling trust principal, income, receipts and disbursements.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session.

LD 1581

An Act to Allow the Department of Human Services Abuse and Neglect Investigators Access to Certain Baxter School for the Deaf Records **PUBLIC 265** 

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedLONGLEYOTP-AMS-177

LD 1581 proposed to give the out-of-home abuse and neglect investigating team established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 4088 the authority to obtain access to personnel records for persons licensed by the Department of Education, including those in the Baxter School for the Deaf.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-177)** proposed to replace section 4 of the bill and specifically limit the information that the out-of-home abuse and neglect investigating team may review relating to a person at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf who is subject to licensure by the Department of Education.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 265 gives the out-of-home abuse and neglect investigating team established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 4088 the authority to obtain access to personnel records for persons licensed by the Department of Education, including those in the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.

The Governor Baxter School for the Deaf and the Department of Education must disclose to the team records related to the following:

Background checks related to the person who is the subject of the investigation. The team can review the information that the school or the department has collected or note when a background check was not completed;