

# 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  
Business and Economic Development*

*August 2001*

**Members:**

*Sen. Kevin Shorey, Chair*

*Sen. Lynn Bromley*

*Sen. Ed Youngblood*

*Rep. John Richardson, Chair*

*Rep. Bruce S. Bryant*

*Rep. Susan Dorr*

*Rep. Paul R. Hatch*

*Rep. Marc Michaud*

*Rep. Jonathan Thomas*

*Rep. Harold A. Clough*

*Rep. Thomas W. Murphy, Jr.*

*Rep. Brian M. Duprey*

*Rep. John R. Morrison*

**Staff:**

*Christopher J. Spruce, Legislative Analyst*

*Curtis C. Bentley, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis*

*13 State House Station*

*Augusta, ME 04333*

*(207) 287-1670*



**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:

<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*  
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

## Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development

**LD 1632**

**Resolve, Directing the Maine Science and Technology Foundation to Determine the Technological, Economic and Public Policy Challenges and Opportunities for the Deployment of Broadband Information Technology Infrastructure to all Parts of the State**

**RESOLVE 67  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BENNETT	OTP-AM	S-107 S-385 GOLDTHWAIT

LD 1632 proposed to direct the Maine Science and Technology Foundation, in cooperation with information technology interests and with various other agencies of the State, to determine the physical condition of the information technology infrastructure in the State, in particular in rural areas, and to report its recommendations, together with any necessary implementing legislation, to the Legislature.

**Committee Amendment “A” (S-107)** proposed to replace much of the original resolve and to establish a Telecommunications Working Group that is directed to determine the technological, economic and public policy challenges and opportunities for the deployment of broadband information technology infrastructure to all parts of the State, and to report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development in the Second Regular Session of the 120<sup>th</sup> Legislature. The amendment also proposed to establish a 21-member advisory panel and to add both an appropriations section and a fiscal note to the original resolve.

**Senate Amendment “A” to Committee Amendment “A” (S-385)** proposed to provide for a chair of the working group. It also proposed to remove legislators as members of the advisory panel and to provide for appointment of public members of the advisory panel by the chair of the working group. It also proposed to require notice of meetings to be given to the Legislature. The amendment also proposed to remove the appropriations section relating to legislative members. The amendment also proposed to change the report date from December 31, 2001 to December 5, 2001. Finally, the amendment proposed to ensure appropriate participation by both joint standing committees of the Legislature having potential jurisdiction over the subject matter.

### *Enacted law summary*

Resolve 2001, chapter 67 directs the State Economist and Chief Information Officer of the State to determine technological, economic and public policy challenges and opportunities for deployment of broadband technology to all parts of the State. The resolve establishes a 4-member working group, chaired by the State’s CIO, and a 17-member advisory panel to provide information and advice to the working group members. The resolve also designates the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development as the chair of the advisory panel. The resolve requires the working group to identify specific geographic areas of the State where advanced telecommunication capability is deployed at a significantly lower rate than the rest of the State. It also requires the working group to study: the investment in telecommunications facilities with advanced capabilities in rural areas; the availability of telecommunications backbone networks and “last mile” facilities with advanced capability in potentially underserved areas; the technological, economic and public policy barriers to the wide deployment of board bandwidth to all parts of the State; the capability of various technological enhancements to existing wired and wireless networks to provide “last mile” advanced telecommunications capability in rural areas; and the feasibility of various technological alternatives to provide “last mile” advanced telecommunications capability in rural areas. Finally, the working group is charged with identifying success strategies that have been implemented in other states to deploy this technology to rural areas. The working group is required to report its findings and recommendations

# Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development

to the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development and the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy by December 5, 2001.

Resolve 2001, chapter 67 was emergency legislation that became effective June 28, 2001.

**LD 1634**                      **An Act to Amend the Laws Pertaining to the Maine Small Business Commission**                      **PUBLIC 142**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHOREY BRYANT	OTP	

LD 1634 proposed to require the Maine Small Business Commission to evaluate entrepreneurial programs as part of its duties and to require the commission to advise the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development in developing and implementing statewide strategies and policies as they relate to encouraging economic development by developing entrepreneurial businesses around the State. The bill also proposed to change the number of members of the commission from 3 to 7.

## *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 142 requires the Maine Small Business Commission to evaluate entrepreneurial programs as part of its duties and requires the commission to advise the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to assist in developing and implementing statewide strategies and policies as they relate to encouraging economic development by developing entrepreneurial businesses around the State. The law also increases the number of members of the commission from 3 to 7.

**LD 1639**                      **An Act to Improve the Licensing and Regulation of Denturists**                      **PUBLIC 337**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MICHAUD MH STANLEY	OTP-AM	S-204

LD 1639 proposed to makes several changes relating to denturists and dental practices. Specifically, the bill proposed the following:

1. To authorizes denturists to become shareholders in dental practices and to add a denturist as a member of the Board of Dental Examiners;
2. To establish the Denturist Subcommittee as an independent subcommittee of the Board of Dental Examiners with jurisdiction over examinations and approval of educational curriculums and continuing education;
3. To clarify the definition of the "practice of denturism";