

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
Labor*

August 2001

Staff:

*Deborah C. Friedman, Senior Analyst
David C. Elliott, Principal Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670*

Members:

*Sen. Betheda G. Edmonds, Chair
Sen. Karl W. Turner
Sen. W. Tom Sawyer, Jr.*

*Rep. George H. Bunker, Jr., Chair
Rep. Zachary E. Matthews
Rep. Deborah J. Hutton
Rep. Jacqueline R. Norton
Rep. William J. Smith
Rep. Frank J. Tarazewich
Rep. Russell P. Treadwell
Rep. Jay MacDougall
Rep. Gerald M. Davis
Rep. Philip Cressey, Jr.*



**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).

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

Joint Standing Committee on Labor

6. It establishes the conditions under which a participating local district that has withdrawn from the Maine State Retirement System may satisfy its liabilities for benefits in order to receive back from the retirement system district assets remaining after liabilities are satisfied and authorizes the retirement system to pay over such assets.

Public Law 2001, chapter 181 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 16, 2001.

LD 1763 **An Act to Transfer Funds from the Department of Labor for a Full-time Hearing Officer for the Workers' Compensation Board** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN MICHAUD ME	ONTP	

LD 1763 proposed to transfer federal funds for one Hearing Officer position in the Department of Labor to the Workers' Compensation Board in fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03.

LD 1789 **An Act Regarding the Length of Service for Retirement Benefits for Certain State Employees** **DIED ON ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MATTHEWS MICHAUD MH	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-615

Part A of this bill proposed to open the 1998 Special Retirement Plan to security officers employed by Capitol Security in the Department of Public Safety and special investigators in the Attorney General's office. Under that existing plan a member qualifies for a service retirement benefit if that worker is at least 55 years of age and has completed at least 10 years of creditable service in a covered capacity. A reduced retirement benefit is available before age 55 if the member has completed at least 25 years of creditable service.

Part B proposed to increase the cap on increases in earnable compensation for purposes of determining average final compensation under the Maine State Retirement System law from 10% over the 3 highest years of earnings to 15% over the 3 highest years of earnings. The annual cap of 5% would remain in place.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-615) proposed to provide retirement benefits under the 1998 special plan for motor vehicle investigators employed by the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The amendment also proposed to eliminate the increase in the 3-year cap on earnable compensation contained in Part B of the bill. Finally, it proposed to add an appropriation section, an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

The bill was adopted in the House but died on the Appropriations Table.

Joint Standing Committee on Labor

See related LDs 1566 and 1583.

HP 1386

JOINT ORDER – Relative to the Committee to Study the Benefits and Costs for Increasing Access to Family and Medical Leave for Maine Families

PASSED

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

Enacted law summary

HP1386 creates the Committee to Study the Benefits and Costs for Increasing Access to Family and Medical Leave for Maine Families. The 15-member committee is directed to examine current availability of paid family and medical leave, the impact on employers, employees and families of providing paid leave, the impact on public health costs and other state-funded programs, and options for providing paid family and medical leave. This Joint Resolution replaces LD 1466.