

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Criminal Justice*

May 2002

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120th Legislature
Second Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 2002

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 arranged alphabetically by committee name 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:

<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 & 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&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i>	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is July 25, 2002.

Patrick T. Norton, Interim Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice

5. It specifies that a law enforcement agency that takes fingerprints or palm prints, upon request, for a criminal history record check for noncriminal justice purposes may not maintain any demographic information that is taken or collected in the process of taking the fingerprints or palm prints.

LD 1997

An Act Regarding Fire Safety Laws for Residential Care Facilities

PUBLIC 531

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FULLER LONGLEY	OTP-AM	H-833

LD 1997 proposed that that prior to being licensed a residential care facility must be certified as meeting certain provisions of the National Fire Protection Association Life Safety Code.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-833) proposed to specify that a residential care facility must use timed drills unless the facility has elected to complete evacuation scores in lieu of timed drills or timed drills are not required. The amendment proposed to change from a Class E crime to a civil violation any failure to comply with the timed drill or evacuation score requirements. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 531 provides that prior to being licensed a residential care facility must be certified as meeting certain provisions of the National Fire Protection Association Life Safety Code. Residential care facilities must use timed drills unless the facility has elected to complete evacuation scores in lieu of timed drills or timed drills are not required. Public Law 2001, chapter 531 specifies that it is a civil violation for failure to comply with the timed drill or evacuation score requirements.

LD 2002

Resolve, Establishing a Commission to Study County Jail Population, Cost and Reimbursement by the State

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PEAVEY TREAT	OTP-AM	H-861

LD 2002, a resolve, proposed to establish the Commission to Study County Jail Population, Costs and Reimbursement by the State. The resolve proposed that the commission study and make recommendations regarding:

1. Initiatives for regional cooperation and solutions in building county jails;
2. Population of county jails, overcrowding and growth;
3. State probation violations, where those violations should be served and who should pay for the resulting incarceration;

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4. Probation options, graduated sanctions and probation officer caseload;
5. Criminal court case loads, whether cases are being handled in a timely fashion and whether there are sufficient judicial resources allocated to handle the current case load; and
6. Issues concerning female offenders in county jails.

The resolve also proposed that the commission report its findings and necessary implementing legislation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over corrections and criminal justice matters by November 1, 2002.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-861) proposed to replace the membership of the commission with the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice. The amendment proposed to expand the duties of the commission to study state subsidies that support county jails and community corrections programs, alternative sentencing options and sentencing policies, and populations that are and are not being served by the county jail system. The amendment also proposed to add an appropriations and allocations section and a fiscal note to the resolve.

Although LD 2002 did not pass, a Joint Order, House Paper 1731, incorporated the substance of the resolve and was read and passed by the House and Senate.

LD 2022

An Act to Clarify the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act of 1999

**PUBLIC 553
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)
O'BRIEN J

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-865

LD 2022 proposed to clarify the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act of 1999 by:

1. Defining "sentence" to include an involuntary commitment under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 15, section 103, or a similar statute in another jurisdiction;
2. Clarifying the definition of "sexually violent offense;"
3. Clarifying when the duty to register must be carried out by a sex offender or sexually violent predator sentenced on or after September 18, 1999;
4. Clarifying when the duty to register must be carried out by a sex offender or sexually violent predator sentenced on or after June 30, 1992, but before September 18, 1999;
5. Amending Title 34-A, section 11225, subsection 1 to delete "sexually violent predator" since that category of offender is not subject to a 10-year registration requirement. Sexually violent predators are instead subject to lifetime registration;
6. Clarifying how the 10-year registration period for sex offenders is to be calculated for those sentenced on or after June 30, 1992, but before September 18, 1999;