

# State Of Maine 120th Legislature

### Second Regular Session

### **Bill Summaries**

# Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

### May 2002

<u>Members</u>: 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. G. Paul Waterhouse Rep. Stavros J. Mendros Rep. Roger L. Sherman Rep. Donna M. Loring

Staff:

Margaret J. Reinsch, Principal Analyst Deborah C. Friedman, Senior 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 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, <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:

CON RES XXX	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
	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
	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL	L PASSAGE Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE	Bill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT	
INDEF PP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
<i>OTP ND</i>	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
PASSED	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX	
	Bill held by Governor

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 Judiciary

#### LD 2019 An Act to Protect Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and PUBLIC 539 Stalking

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
SAXL	OTP-AM	H-855
RAND		H-866 DUPLESSIE

LD 2019 proposed to establish the Address Confidentiality Program to be administered by the Secretary of State.

**Committee Amendment ''A'' (H-855)** proposed to revise language in the proposed Address Confidentiality Program concerning filing applications containing false or incorrect information or falsely claiming the need for participation in the program.

**House Amendment ''A'' (H-866)** was presented on behalf of the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading. It proposed to correct designation of rules to conform with the terms used in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 539 establishes the Address Confidentiality Program to be administered by the Secretary of State. The program provides state and local agencies with the ability to respond to requests for public records without disclosing the location of a victim of domestic violence, stalking or sexual assault. The program enables interagency cooperation with the Secretary of State in providing address confidentiality for victims of domestic violence, stalking or sexual assault and enables state and local agencies to accept a program participant's use of an address designated by the Secretary of State as a substitute mailing address.

# LD 2025An Act to Make Certain Changes to the State's Child SupportPUBLIC 554Enforcement LawsEMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
NASS	OTP-AM	H-868
MILLS		

LD 2025 proposed to amend the child support laws concerning the establishment and enforcement of child support.

**Committee Amendment ''A'' (H-868)** proposed to limit the authorization for DHS employees who are not attorneys to represent the Department in Probate Court.

This amendment proposed to amend the paternity statute to address proceedings in which there is more than one alleged father of the same child.

This amendment proposed to clarify the responsibility of the Department of Human Services, in consultation with the Supreme Judicial Court and other interested parties, to adopt the child support table by rule.