

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Appropriations And Financial Affairs*

May 2002

Members:

Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait, Chair

Sen. Mary R. Cathcart

Sen. S. Peter Mills

Rep. Randall L. Berry, Chair

Rep. Richard H. Mailhot

Rep. Paul L. Tessier

Rep. Joseph C. Brannigan

Rep. David M. Etnier

Rep. Sharon Libby Jones

Rep. Richard A. Nass

Rep. Tom J. Winsor

Rep. Irvin G. Belanger

Rep. Richard W. Rosen

Staff:

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Maine State Legislature
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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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs

hearings, conducting statewide outreach to contact women veterans to explain benefits available to them, holding a statewide conference on benefits and for associated travel, mailing and Internet expenses.

House Amendment “A” (H-828) proposed to replace the bill with a resolve. The resolve would require the Commissioner of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to report on the progress regarding outreach activities and other concerns for women veterans to the Legislature by January 15, 2003.

Enacted Law Summary:

Resolve 2001, chapter 96 directs the Commissioner of the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to review the report of the Advisory Commission on Women Veterans, to develop a plan to meet the outreach needs of women veterans and to implement outreach activities. The Commissioner is also required to report back to the Legislature by January 15, 2003 on the progress of implementing outreach activities for women veterans.

LD 2036

An Act to Increase Home Ownership

PUBLIC 631

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAXL BENNETT	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-763

LD 2036 proposed to increase the amount of bonds that the Maine State Housing Authority may issue that are enhanced by the State's moral obligation by \$500,000,000 to \$2,150,000,000. These bonds are primarily used for the authority's first time home buyer program and secured by first mortgages.

Committee Amendment “A” (H-763) was the majority report. The bill proposed to increase the amount of bonds that the Maine State Housing Authority might issue in a certain category to \$2,150,000,000. The amendment proposed to require the Maine State Housing Authority (MSHA) to adopt a policy to prohibit certain owners of MSHA-financed property who defaulted on their loans from participating in MSHA programs funded with bond proceeds backed by the State's moral obligation. This policy would allow a waiver for public policy reasons. It also proposed to remove the emergency preamble and emergency clause and add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary:

Public Law 2001, chapter 631 increases the amount of bonds that the Maine State Housing Authority may issue that are enhanced by the State's moral obligation by \$500,000,000 to \$2,150,000,000. These bonds are primarily used for the authority's first time home buyer program and secured by first mortgages.