

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Labor*

May 2002

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*

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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
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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 Labor

LD 2185

An Act to Amend Maine State Retirement System Statutes

PUBLIC 699

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

LD 2185 proposed two changes in existing law. First, it proposed to amend the definition of “teacher” under the Maine State Retirement System to include a school employee for whom certification by the Department of Education is required whose duties include either (1) the setup, maintenance or upgrading of a school computer system, the purpose of which is to assist in the introduction of new learning to students, or (2) providing school faculty orientation and training related to use of the computer system.

Second, the bill proposed to repeal the current law that provides for reduction in benefits for retirees of participating local districts under the Maine State Retirement System who return to employment in a participating local district covered by the retirement system if they exceed certain earnings limitations. The bill would permit retirees to return to covered service and keep both their pension and their full earnings. Retirees who take advantage of the provisions of the bill would not be eligible to earn additional retirement benefits based on their return to service employment. This bill was similar to Public Law 2001, chapter 442 enacted last year covering state employees and teachers.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 699 accomplishes 2 purposes. First, it includes within the definition of “teacher” under the Maine State Retirement System a school employee for whom certification by the Department of Education is required whose duties include either (1) the setup, maintenance or upgrading of a school computer system the purpose of which is to assist in the introduction of new learning to students or (2) providing school faculty orientation and training related to use of the computer system.

Second, chapter 699 repeals the current law that provides for reduction in benefits for retirees of participating local districts under the Maine State Retirement System who return to employment in a participating local district covered by the retirement system if they exceed certain earnings limitations. The bill would permit retirees to return to covered service and keep both their pension and their full earnings. Retirees who take advantage of the provisions of the bill would not be eligible to earn additional retirement benefits based on their return to service employment. This part of the bill is similar to Public Law 2001, chapter 442 enacted last year and covering state employees and teachers.

LD 2187

An Act to Provide Equity to Adoptive Parents with Respect to Parental Leave

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BAKER	ONTP	

LD 2187 proposed to provide that an employer who provides paid leave to an employee in connection with the birth of that employee's child must provide comparable paid leave to an employee in connection with that employee's adoption of a child who is less than a year old.