

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Business and Economic Development*

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 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.

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
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
PASSED..... Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 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 Business and Economic Development

LD 2191 was the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development reported out pursuant to Joint Order 2001, HP 1610, and proposed that funds provided by this bond issue in the amount of \$29,400,000 would be used for the following purposes:

1. The sum of \$5,000,000 to encourage economic investment by businesses by providing low-interest loans to develop and redevelop commercial facilities;
2. The sum of \$5,000,000 to promote job creation by providing loans of up to \$200,000 to Maine businesses that do not have sufficient access to credit but demonstrate the ability to survive, preserve and create jobs and repay obligations;
3. The sum of \$5,000,000 to recapitalize a revolving loan fund that provides funding to regional economic development agencies to relend for the purpose of creating and retaining jobs locally;
4. The sum of \$4,000,000 to provide loans and grants to municipalities for public infrastructure improvements, including downtowns, transportation projects, streetscapes and sewer and water projects;
5. The sum of \$400,000 to leverage \$4,000,000 in federal funding to redevelop the naval base in Winter Harbor and Gouldsboro into an education and research center; and
6. The sum of \$10,000,000 for the construction of 2 facilities for product development and support that will provide the University of Maine and the University of Southern Maine with the resources needed to help solve daily manufacturing and engineering problems for Maine companies.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-491) proposed to refine the description of one of the permissible allocations of the proceeds of the bonds and remove language that would limit to \$200,000 the amount of loans provided by the Finance Authority of Maine under the Economic Recovery Loan program. This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 2192

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Unlawful Sale of Personal Sports Mobiles and the Registration of New Snowmobiles

PUBLIC 616

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-1012 RICHARDSON

LD 2192 was the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development pursuant to Joint Order 2001, H.P. 1586. It proposed to make a number of changes to the laws governing the unlawful sale of new personal sports mobiles and the registration of new snowmobiles. Among other things, it proposed to amend the definition of "new personal sports mobile" to include those new personal sports mobiles not previously registered in this State or any other state or for which sales tax has not been paid in this State or any other state. It also proposed to require that a personal sports mobile dealer hold a valid franchise from a manufacturer to sell a new personal sports mobile. The bill also proposed to make it a Class E crime for a person to unlawfully sell a new personal sports mobile. Further, the bill proposed to require a municipal agent to make a determination that a new snowmobile being registered has been purchased from a new snowmobile dealer holding a valid franchise with the manufacturer of the brand of new snowmobile being registered.

Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development

Committee Amendment "A" (H-960), which was not adopted, was the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development pursuant to Joint Order 2001, H.P. 1586. The amendment proposed to strike a section of the committee bill that makes it a Class E crime to unlawfully sell a new personal sports mobile without a current and valid franchise with a personal sports mobile manufacturer. Instead, the amendment proposed to make violation of this section a civil violation. The amendment also proposed to strike 2 sections of the committee bill that amend the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12 to require the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or the commissioner's designee or a municipal agent to determine whether or not a new snowmobile was purchased from a new snowmobile dealer holding a valid and current franchise with a manufacturer of the brand of snowmobile being registered and that requires a person in the business of selling new or used snowmobiles to register as a dealer and to obtain a dealer's license from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

House Amendment "A" (H-1012), which was adopted, proposed to remove the provision that would have required the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and municipal agents to make determinations regarding the validity of franchise agreements prior to registering new snowmobiles. Further, the amendment proposed to add language to the bill authorizing any law enforcement officer to enforce the unlawful sales provision.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 616 makes a number of changes to the laws governing the unlawful sale of new personal sports mobiles. Among other things, it amends the definition of "new personal sports mobile" to include those new personal sports mobiles not previously registered in this State or any other state or for which sales tax has not been paid in this State or any other state. The law also requires that a personal sports mobile dealer hold a valid franchise from a manufacturer to sell a new personal sports mobile. The bill also makes it a Class E crime for a person to unlawfully sell a new personal sports mobile. The law also authorizes any law enforcement officer to enforce the unlawful sales provision.

LD 2194

An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$15,000,000 for Biomedical Research and Development Equipment and Infrastructure

INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

H-1004 RICHARDSON

LD 2194 was a report of the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development pursuant to Joint Order 2001, HP 1610 and proposed to create a bond issue in the amount of \$15,000,000 that would be used for biomedical research and development by Maine-based nonprofit and state research institutions.

House Amendment "A" (H-1004) adds a fiscal note to the bill.