

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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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 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 2200

Resolve, to Study the Impact of a Maine-based Casino on the Economy, Transportation Infrastructure, State Revenues and the Job Market

RESOLVE 124

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARR	OTP-AM MAJ	H-1035
SHOREY	ONTP MIN	S-605 GOLDTHWAIT

LD 2200 proposed to establish the Task Force to Study the Impact of a Maine-based Casino. The task force would be comprised of Legislators, including a tribal representative, the Attorney General, the Chief of State Police, the Commissioner of Transportation, a member of the Maine Sheriffs' Association and members of the public. The task force would be charged with estimating the impact of a casino based in Maine upon employment, the transportation infrastructure the State's economy and the State's revenues.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1035), which was adopted, proposed to change the membership of the Task Force to Study the Impact of a Maine-based Casino and to increase the membership from 14 to 19 members. It proposed to amend the duties of the task force to require that the task force hold 3 regional public hearings, determine the appropriate location for a casino and estimate the impact of a casino on municipal services, social services, affordable housing, business activity and criminal activity within a 25-mile radius of a proposed casino and the impact on other forms of gambling that are legally conducted in the State. It also proposed to amend the bill so that the task force submits its report to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development and gaming matters. Under this amendment, the joint standing committees would be authorized to report out legislation to the 121st Legislature. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the resolve.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-1056), which was not adopted, proposed to add to the duties of the Task Force to Study the Impact of a Maine-based Casino the requirement that the task force compare the proposal for a Maine-based casino with the proposal to expand gaming at commercial harness racing tracks as proposed in the referendum language certified by the Secretary of State in November 2001.

House Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-1059), which was not adopted, proposed to add the Executive Director of the Christian Civic League of Maine to the membership of the task force.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-534), which was not adopted, proposed to require the Task Force to Study the Impact of a Maine-based Casino to compare the costs, revenue and social implications of the proposed Maine-based casino with the expansion of gaming at commercial harness racing tracks.

Senate Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-560), which was not adopted, proposed to amend the duties of the task force by requiring the task force to survey various agencies that would provide services to individuals experiencing difficulties as a result of gambling and to determine the necessary funding to provide those services. The amendment also proposed to require the task force to examine the net costs of additional social services and the impact of those costs on the State and also to estimate the number of jobs created or lost due to operation of a casino. It proposed to change the distance from a 25-mile radius to a 50-mile radius in which to estimate the impact of a casino to a municipality. It also proposed to define a quorum of the task force as 12 members.

Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development

Senate Amendment "C" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-594), which was not adopted, was prepared pursuant to action taken by the Legislative Council on March 26, 2002. It proposed to change Legislator membership provisions; to limit the task force to 4 meetings, one of which may be a public hearing in the Augusta area; to change the report date; to authorize each of the 2 joint standing committees to report out a bill; and to remove the General Fund appropriation.

Senate Amendment "D" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-605), which was adopted, was prepared pursuant to action taken by the Legislative Council on March 26, 2002. The amendment proposed to change legislative membership provisions; to limit the task force to 4 meetings, one of which may be a public hearing in the Augusta area; to change the report date; and to remove the General Fund appropriation.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2001, chapter 124 establishes the Task Force to Study the Impact of a Maine-based Casino. Membership of the 18-member task force is comprised of Legislators, including a tribal representative, the Attorney General, the Chief of State Police, the Commissioner of Transportation, a member of the Maine Sheriffs' Association, members of the public and others. The task force is charged with estimating the impact of a casino on municipal services, social services, affordable housing, business activity and criminal activity within a 25-mile radius of a proposed casino and the impact on other forms of gambling that are legally conducted in the State, as well as the impact of a casino upon employment, the transportation infrastructure the State's economy and the State's revenues. The task force is limited to 4 meetings, one of which may be a public hearing in the Augusta area. It requires the task force to submit a report to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development matters and gambling matters by November 6, 2002.

LD 2203

An Act to Increase the Cap on Funds Available through the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program

PUBLIC 639

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 2203 was a report of the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development reported out pursuant to Joint Order 2001, HP 1610, and proposed to increase the amount a corporation may receive from the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program Fund from \$1,250,000 to \$2,500,000 and proposed to make more money available to corporations for reasonable administrative expenses by increasing the commitment fee from 1% to 2% and increasing the interest earnings cap from 5% to 7%.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 639 increases the amount a corporation may receive from the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program Fund from \$1,250,000 to \$2,500,000 and makes more money available to corporations to use for reasonable administrative expenses by increasing the commitment fee from 1% to 2% and increasing the interest earnings cap from 5% to 7%.