

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

Staff:

*Christopher J. Spruce, Legislative Analyst
Curtis C. Bentley, Legislative 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
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 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%.