MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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State Of Maine 121st Legislature

Second Regular Session and Second Special Session

Bill Summaries

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

May 2004

Members:

Sen. Mary R. Cathcart, Chair Sen. Margaret R. Rotundo Sen. Karl W. Turner

Rep. Joseph C. Brannigan, Chair Rep. Richard H. Mailhot Rep. Scott W. Cowger Rep. Benjamin F. Dudley Rep. Sean Faircloth Rep. Hannah Pingree Rep. Richard W. Rosen Rep. S. Peter Mills Rep. H. Sawin Millett, Jr. Rep. Julie Ann O'Brien

Staff:

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Maine State Legislature



Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis Office Of Fiscal And Program Review

121st Maine Legislature Second Regular Session and Second Special Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint 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/billsumm.htm).

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:

	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
	y accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
	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 PostponedOught Not To Pass report accepted
ONTP	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP-ND	
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law Joint Order passed in both bodiesChapter # of enacted Public Law
PASSED	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX	
UNSIGNED	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is April 30, 2004; and non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Special Session is July 30, 2004. Four bills (LD's 1572, 1629, 1636 and 1637) that were considered at the First Special Session in August 2003 are also included in these summaries.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

1999, chapter 511 as a nonlapsing fund to match qualified private donations for academic purposes at the University of Maine System, the Maine Technical College System and the Maine Maritime Academy.

LD 337 An Act to Strengthen State Investment in the University of Maine System for Applied Research and Development

ONTP

Sponsor(s) CATHCART THOMAS Committee Report ONTP **Amendments Adopted**

LD 337 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to provide additional funds for the Maine Economic Improvement Fund for applied research and development in the University of Maine System.

LD 1828, Public Law 2003, chapter 513, Part P, provides up to \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2004-05 for the Maine Economic Improvement Fund, if the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund is sufficient at the close of fiscal year 2003-04.

LD 356 An Act To Build a Prison in Washington County

ONTP

Sponsor(s) PELLON HATCH, PH

Committee Repor ONTP Amendments Adopted

LD 356 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to authorize the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to issue securities in an amount up to \$19,000,000 for the purpose of building a prison in Washington County.

LD 394

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$2,700,000 for Maine Maritime Academy

ONTP

Sponsor(s) MCKENNEY SAWYER Committee Report ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 394 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to authorize a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$2,700,000, which would be used to repair and replace health and safety items, to renovate classroom buildings, to dredge the waterfront, to replace bulk heads and to construct a new classroom and a studio for Maine Maritime Academy.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

LD 1572, Private and Special 2003, c. 33 (approved by the voters in November 2003) provides \$1,000,000 to make repairs and replace classroom and other facilities at Maine Maritime Academy.

LD 595 An Act To Appropriate Funds for a Study To Determine the Feasibility of a Medical School in Maine

DIED IN CONCURRENCE

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MARTIN	OTP-AM	S-549
SMITH, W		

LD 595 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to appropriate funds to the University of Maine System to hire Medical Care Development, Inc. to study the feasibility of a medical school in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-549) proposed to change the bill into a resolve creating the Commission to Study the Recruitment, Training and Retention of Physicians for Rural and Medically Underserved Areas of Maine.

LD 634 An Act To Provide Funding for the Maine-Canada Trade
Ombudsman

PUBLIC 701

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
SHERMAN	OTP-AM	H-722
STANLEY		H-980 BRANNIGAN

LD 634 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to provide funding in both years of the biennium for the Office of the Maine-Canada Trade Ombudsman, an office created in Public Law 2001, chapter 643. The duties of the ombudsman would be to act as the Maine representative for relations with Canada to ensure the coordination of state policy when dealing with Canada and to work with businesses and individuals to investigate and work toward resolution of complaints that arise concerning trade issues. Funding was originally provided in chapter 643, but was deappropriated in Public Law 2001, chapter 714, Part B.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-722) proposed to provide funding beginning in fiscal year 2004-05 for the Office of the Maine-Canada Trade Ombudsman and clarify the term of appointment for that position.

House Amendment "A" (H-980) proposed to correct the appropriation to reflect the fact that the position already exists. The amendment simply proposed to increase the amount of the Personal Services line category for the existing position.