

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
121st Legislature*

*First Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
State and Local Government*

*July 2003*

**Members:**

*Sen. Margaret Rotundo, Chair*

*Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain III*

*Sen. Carolyn M. Gilman*

*Rep. Janet L. McLaughlin, Chair*

*Rep. George H. Bunker, Jr.*

*Rep. Christopher R. Barstow*

*Rep. Susanne P. Ketterer*

*Rep. Edward J. Suslovic*

*Rep. Anita Peavey-Haskell*

*Rep. Robert H. Crosthwaite*

*Rep. Stephen Bowen*

*Rep. Oscar C. Stone*

*Rep. Gary E. Sukeforth*

**Staff:**

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# Maine State Legislature



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

### 121st Maine Legislature First Regular 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](http://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>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i> .....	<i>Bills carried over to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session</i>
<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 &amp; 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>P&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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 that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 13, 2003.

**David C. Elliott, Director**  
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

*Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government*

**LD 456**

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to Examine the Potential Cost Savings of Offering State Employees Early Retirement**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LERMAN		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 456 proposed to direct the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services, with the assistance of the Maine State Retirement System, to examine the potential cost savings of offering state employees early retirement.

**LD 465**

**An Act To Make Transportation More Affordable for Low-income Families**

**PUBLIC 37**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCGLOCKLIN		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-22
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LD 465 proposed to allow nonprofit organizations that contract with the Department of Human Services to help make transportation available to low-income families who need transportation for work, education or training to participate in the private purchase of surplus state vehicles. The purpose of the bill was to help participating nonprofits make vehicles more affordable for families.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-22)** proposed to clarify that vehicles made available under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1813, subsection 6 to low-income families who need transportation for work, education or training may only be passenger vehicles or light trucks. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note.

***Enacted Law Summary***

Public Law 2003, chapter 37 allows nonprofit organizations that contract with the Department of Human Services to help make transportation available to low-income families who need transportation for work, education or training to participate in the private purchase of state surplus passenger vehicles or light trucks. The purpose of this law is to help participating nonprofits make vehicles more affordable for families.

**LD 484**

**An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the State House and Capitol Park Commission Regarding a Living Memorial in Capitol Park**

**PUBLIC 316**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-308
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LD 484 was submitted by the State House and Capitol Commission as a result of its study pursuant to Resolve 2001, chapter 110. The bill proposed to add to the duties of the commission the responsibility, subject to available funding, of providing for the development and maintenance of a living memorial garden in Capitol Park. Under the proposed bill, the commission may use public and private funds for that purpose. The bill also proposed to make a technical cross-reference correction.