

# 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*

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Sen. Margaret R. Rotundo  
Sen. Karl W. Turner*

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Rep. Julie Ann O'Brien*

*Maine State Legislature*



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

*121st Maine Legislature  
Second Regular Session and  
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*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](http://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:

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
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 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.

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

**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**

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

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**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHERMAN STANLEY	OTP-AM	H-722 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.