

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
121st Legislature*

*First Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Business, Research and Economic Development*

*July 2003*

**Members:**

*Sen. Lynn Bromley, Chair*

*Sen. Christopher G. L. Hall*

*Sen. Kevin L. Shorey*

*Rep. Nancy B. Sullivan, Chair*

*Rep. Lillian LaFontaine O'Brien*

*Rep. Guy J. Duprey, Jr.*

*Rep. Edward Pellon*

*Rep. Nancy E. Smith*

*Rep. Susan M. Austin*

*Rep. Robert A. Berube*

*Rep. Lawrence E. Jacobsen*

*Rep. Christopher Rector*

*Rep. William T. Rogers, Jr.*

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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 Business, Research and Economic Development*

its report to the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development and to the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services no later than December 10, 2003.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-554)** proposed to add an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill, to require the Committee to Study the Revenue Sources of the Office of Consumer Credit Regulation to submit its report to the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature no later than December 3, 2003 and to authorize the committee to submit a bill to the Legislature at the time of submission of its report.

### *Enacted Law Summary*

Public Law 2003, chapter 462 clarifies the State's policy on payment of volume fees upon refinancing a sale, lease or loan. The law also creates the 14-member Committee to Study the Revenue Sources of the Office of Consumer Credit Regulation. The committee is funded from Other Special Revenue funds within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Consumer Credit Regulation. The committee is required to submit its report to the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature no later than December 3, 2003 and is authorized to submit a bill to the Legislature at the time of submission of its report.

Public Law 2003, chapter 462 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 16, 2003.

**LD 979**

### **An Act To Require Continuing Education for Professional Engineers**

**PUBLIC 94**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NASS BROWN	OTP	H-109 SULLIVAN

LD 979 proposed to establish a continuing professional education requirement for engineers registered under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 19.

**House Amendment "A" (H-109)** proposed to add an appropriation and allocation section to the bill.

### *Enacted Law Summary*

Public Law 2003, chapter 94 establishes a continuing professional education requirement for engineers registered under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 19.

**LD 985**

### **An Act To Improve the State's Returnable Bottle Law and Adjust Handling Fees**

**PUBLIC 499**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	S-217 S-307 CATHCART

LD 985 proposed to allow initiators of deposits for beverage containers, for example, manufacturers or distributors, to enter into commingling agreements that would allow dealers of the initiators' products and redemption centers to