

# 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.*

**Staff:**

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*13 State House Station*

*Augusta, ME 04333*

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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*

**LD 994**

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Inventory Maine Business Excellence**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BENNETT R		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 994 proposed to direct the Department of Economic and Community Development to inventory and study the State's enterprises, industries and business clusters to determine what makes them exceptional.

**LD 995**

**An Act To Exempt a Person Who Performs Work on Certain Vessels from the Laws Governing Professional Engineers**

**PUBLIC 34**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LEMONT BROWN		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 995 proposed to exempt a person who performs work only on vessels under 200 feet long from the laws governing professional engineers.

***Enacted Law Summary***

Public Law 2003, chapter 34 exempts a person who performs work only on vessels under 200 feet long from the laws governing professional engineers.

**LD 1004**

**An Act To Clarify the Status of Regulated Water Utility Plumbing Permits**

**PUBLIC 304**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DAVIS P		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-128
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LD 1004 proposed to direct the Plumbers' Examining Board to review and revise its rules to clarify and codify long-standing interpretation by water utilities and municipalities that excludes from permit requirements all installations of water meters, related valves and backflow prevention devices by a water utility or its contractor. The bill also proposed to specify that a municipality may not create a permit requirement for such installations.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-128)** proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to exempt the installation of stand-alone water meters, water meters in combination with nontestable backflow prevention devices and related valves by water utility personnel or water utility contractors from municipal plumbing inspection and permitting requirements. The amendment also proposed to require that a statement be included in any notice provided to a customer regarding entry to install such water meters or related valves that installation of a backflow preventor may necessitate installation by the customer of additional devices, such as an expansion tank, due to thermal expansion.