

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

*State Of Maine  
121st Legislature*

*First Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Appropriations And Financial Affairs*

*July 2003*

**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:**

*James K. Dionne, Principal Analyst*

*Office of Fiscal and Program Review  
5 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0005  
(207) 287-1635*

# 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 APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

**LD 1173**

**An Act To Continue the Maine Farms for the Future Program**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PINGREE BRYANT	ONTP	

LD 1173 proposed to authorize a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$5,000,000 to be used to fund both grants and loans under the Maine Farms for the Future Program administered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. Part B provides the statutory authority to allow loans to be made to eligible farms under the Maine Farms for the Future Program and is contingent upon passage of the referendum set out in Part A.

**LD 1232**

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Increase the State Bonding Limit under Certain Circumstances**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKENNEY TURNER	ONTP	

LD 1232 proposed to increase the debt limit of the State from \$2,000,000 to \$30,000,000 when the total outstanding debt of a public instrumentality of the State that acquires, constructs or improves buildings for use by the State is \$30,000,000 or less and that public instrumentality is prohibited from incurring any additional debt or liability.

**LD 1249**

**An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Quality Child Care Tax Credit**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SIMPSON DOUGLASS		

LD 1249 proposes to provide that a taxpayer that made an investment in child care services certified under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 5219-Q during the tax year would be eligible for the tax credit provided in that section. A taxpayer would not be required to own or operate a child care site to be eligible for the tax credit provided in section 5219-Q.