

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
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:

James Adolf, Legislative Analyst

Patrick Norton, Deputy Director

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

13 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

(207) 287-1670

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).

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 2nd 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 & 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&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & 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

entirely from the Maine Motor Vehicle Franchise Fund, which is funded by fees imposed in the law that are paid by automobile franchisees and franchisors.

LD 1305 **An Act To Require Water Tests Prior to the Sale of Homes** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MOORE G NASS	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

LD 1305 proposed to require that the seller of residential real property with a private water supply provide to the purchaser the results of a water test. The bill also proposed to require the Real Estate Commission to adopt rules to ensure consistency with the requirements of disclosure of water test results.

LD 1316 **An Act To Establish Medical Gas and Vacuum System Installer Certification** **ONTP**

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

LD 1316 proposed to create the State Board of Examiners for the Medical Gas and Vacuum System Industry and establish certification requirements for medical gas and vacuum system installers. The bill also proposed to create a permit system for those who apprentice as medical gas and vacuum system installers.

LD 1325 **An Act To Encourage and Support Maine Owner-operated Small Businesses** **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROMLEY SULLIVAN		

LD 1325 is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to direct the Department of Economic and Community Development to provide certain programming and resources specifically to owner-operated small businesses in this State.

LD 1326 **An Act To Provide for the 2003 and 2004 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds** **P & S 17
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROMLEY SULLIVAN	OTP-AM	S-73

LD 1326 proposed to establish the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt bonds for calendar years 2003 and 2004. Under federal law, a maximum of \$228,580,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private

Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development

individuals or entities may be issued in Maine in 2003 and a maximum of \$228,580,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in Maine in 2004. This bill proposed to allocate the state ceiling among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds as follows: to the Treasurer of State, \$20,000,000 in 2003 and \$0 in 2004; to the Finance Authority of Maine, \$60,000,000 in 2003 and \$30,000,000 in 2004; to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank, \$10,000,000 in 2003 and \$10,000,000 in 2004; to the Maine Educational Loan Authority, \$0 in 2003 and \$0 in 2004; and to the Maine State Housing Authority, \$40,000,000 in 2003 and \$40,000,000 in 2004. The bill proposed to leave \$98,580,000 of the state ceiling unallocated in 2003 and \$148,580,000 unallocated in 2004.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-73) incorporated a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 17 establishes the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt bonds for calendar years 2003 and 2004. Under federal law, a maximum of \$228,580,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in Maine in 2003 and a maximum of \$228,580,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in Maine in 2004. This law allocates the state ceiling among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds as follows: to the Treasurer of State, \$20,000,000 in 2003 and \$0 in 2004; to the Finance Authority of Maine, \$60,000,000 in 2003 and \$30,000,000 in 2004; to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank, \$10,000,000 in 2003 and \$10,000,000 in 2004; to the Maine Educational Loan Authority, \$0 in 2003 and \$0 in 2004; and to the Maine State Housing Authority, \$40,000,000 in 2003 and \$40,000,000 in 2004. The law leaves \$98,580,000 of the state ceiling unallocated in 2003 and \$148,580,000 unallocated in 2004.

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 17 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 15, 2003.

LD 1345

An Act To Make Minor Technical Changes to the Maine Biomedical Research Program and To Amend the Calculation of Funds To Be Transferred to the Maine Research and Development Evaluation Fund

**PUBLIC 464
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHOREY RICHARDSON J	OTP-AM	H-579 SULLIVAN S-158

LD 1345 proposed to remove the rule-making authority of the Department of Economic and Community Development from the Maine Biomedical Research Program because the department no longer manages the program.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-158) proposed to restore the rule-making authority concerning the Maine Biomedical Research Program that was repealed by the bill but transfer that authority from the Department of Economic and Community Development to the Maine Biomedical Research Board and to designate rules adopted pursuant to that authority as routine technical rather than major substantive.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-579) proposed to add general obligation bonds issued for research and development to the calculation of funds to be transferred to the Maine Research and Development Evaluation Fund that is administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development