

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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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

LD 1411 **An Act To Increase the Licensing Fee Caps of the State Board of Optometry** **PUBLIC 252**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BROMLEY SULLIVAN		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-98
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LD 1411 proposed to increase the fee caps for the State Board of Optometry to enable the board to increase its fees in order to meet its expenses.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-98) added a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2003, chapter 252 increases the fee caps for the State Board of Optometry in order to enable the board to increase its fees in order to meet its expenses.

LD 1441 **An Act To Establish New License Fee Caps** **PUBLIC 250**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BROMLEY SULLIVAN		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1441 proposed to increase the license fee cap for physical therapy licenses from \$60 to \$100 and to increase the cap for plumbers' licenses from \$150 to \$200. It also proposed to give the Director of the Office of Licensing and Registration within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation the authority to set individual licensing fee amounts.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2003, chapter 250 increases the license fee cap for physical therapy licenses from \$60 to \$100 and increases the cap for plumbers' licenses from \$150 to \$200. The law also gives the Director of the Office of Licensing and Registration within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation the authority to set individual licensing fee amounts.

LD 1455 **An Act To Amend the Forester Law** **PUBLIC 364**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCKEE		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-156 BRYANT
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LD 1455 proposed to amend the forester licensing law to allow the Board of Licensure of Foresters to renew forester licenses without examination or internship for applicants who renew within 2 years of their license expiration date. Similarly, the bill proposed to allow the board to renew intern forester licenses without imposing all requirements for new licensure for applicants who renew within 2 years of license expiration. The bill also

Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development

proposed to allow intern forester applicants to use relatives as references and sponsors, and to change the board's variance and supervisor registration rules from major substantive to routine technical.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-156) proposed to clarify that applicants who have applied on or before April 30, 2002 for a forester license may be qualified by experience or education to be licensed.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2003, chapter 364 amends the forester licensing law to allow the Board of Licensure of Foresters to renew forester licenses without examination or internship for applicants who renew within 2 years of their license expiration date. Similarly, the law allows the board to renew intern forester licenses without imposing all requirements for new licensure for applicants who renew within 2 years of license expiration. The law also allows intern forester applicants to use relatives as references and sponsors, and changes the board's variance and supervisor registration rules from major substantive to routine technical. Additionally, the law clarifies that applicants who have applied on or before April 30, 2002 for a forester license may be qualified by experience or education to be licensed.

LD 1469

An Act To Raise the Fee Cap for Dentists

PUBLIC 285

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SULLIVAN BROMLEY	OTP-AM	H-263

LD 1469 proposed to increase the fee caps for the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Board of Dental Examiners and delete the exclusion of an initial license fee for denturists to make it consistent with all other license categories.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-263) proposed to delete those provisions of the bill that raised the fee caps for dental hygienists, denturists and dental radiographers. The amendment proposed to retain the provision that raises the fee cap for dentists. The amendment also proposed to raise the fee cap for licensure of dentists with out-of-state licenses to \$400 rather than \$500 to be consistent with licensure of in-state dentists, in order to avoid constitutional problems.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2003, chapter 285 increases the fee cap for licensure of dentists from \$200 to \$400 and increases the fee cap for licensure of dentists with out-of-state licenses from \$300 to \$400. The law also increases the fee cap for reinstatement of dentist licenses from \$100 to \$200 for fees paid before February 1 and from \$200 to \$400 for fees paid after February 1.