MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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State Of Maine 121st Legislature

Second Regular Session and Second Special Session

Bill Summaries

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

May 2004

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:

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Maine State Legislature



Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis Office Of Fiscal And Program Review

121st Maine Legislature Second Regular Session and Second Special 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/billsumm.htm).

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:

	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
	y accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE	Bill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT	Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY	Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEF PP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP	Bill Indefinitely PostponedOught Not To Pass report accepted
OTP-ND	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
P&S XXX	
PASSED	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public LawChapter # of finally passed ResolveBill held by Governor
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is April 30, 2004; and non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Special Session is July 30, 2004. Four bills (LD's 1572, 1629, 1636 and 1637) that were considered at the First Special Session in August 2003 are also included in these summaries.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

This law also repeals the section of chapter 333 that repealed Title 12, section 7467, subsection 8, thus leaving subsection 8 in force. Further, it proposed to make the change effective September 13, 2003, which was the date chapter 333 was to take effect. Public Law 2003, chapter 333 repealed the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 7464, subsection 7, which prohibited the illegal possession of a gift moose, and Title 12, section 7464, subsection 8, which prohibited the buying and selling of moose. Although the repeal of Title 12, section 7467, subsection 7 was intentional, Title 12, section 7467, subsection 8 was repealed in error.

Public Law 2003, chapter 507 was enacted as an emergency measure and took effect August 26, 2003.

LD 1647

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$3,000,000 To Build a Warehouse To Stimulate and Support Maine's Manufacturing, Transportation and Harbor Industries

ONTP

Sponsor(s) USHER HATCH, PH Committee Report ONTP **Amendments Adopted**

LD 1647 proposed to authorize a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$3,000,000, to be used to construct a warehouse facility at Merrill's Marine Terminal in the Port of Portland.

LD 1673

An Act To Provide Funding for the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
COLWELL
GAGNON

Committee Report ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1673 proposed the following.

Part A of this bill proposed to appropriate funds to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices for the following purposes:

- 1. To provide additional funding for the Maine Clean Election Fund;
- 2. To provide additional funds for temporary workers needed for election-related data entry and clerical tasks:
- 3. To provide additional funds for certain technology costs; and
- 4. To provide additional funds for per diem payments for commission members.