

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
Business, Research and Economic Development*

May 2004

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. Stephen R. Beaudette

Rep. William T. Rogers, Jr.

Staff:

James Adolf, Legislative Analyst

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
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:

- CON RES XXX..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES..... House & Senate disagree; bill died
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
- EMERGENCY 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..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
- OTP-ND Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
- P&S XXX..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
- PASSED..... Joint Order passed in both bodies
- PUBLIC XXX..... Chapter # of enacted Public Law
- 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.

David C. Elliott, Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development

LD 1663

**An Act To Provide Assistance to Municipalities Regarding
Downtown Rehabilitation Building Codes**

PUBLIC 605

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LERMAN	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-770

LD 1663 proposed to require the Executive Department, State Planning Office to provide updated information, training and technical support to interested municipalities regarding the rehabilitation subcode of the State of New Jersey's uniform construction code in order to support the revitalization and rehabilitation of city downtown areas.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-770) proposed to replace the bill and direct the Executive Department, State Planning Office, within existing resources, to provide technical assistance to municipalities and regional planning organizations in the development and implementation of local building codes and those local building rehabilitation codes that are consistent with any model building codes adopted by the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2003, chapter 605 directs the Executive Department, State Planning Office, within existing resources, to provide technical assistance to municipalities and regional planning organizations in the development and implementation of local building codes and those local building rehabilitation codes that are consistent with any model building codes adopted by the State.

LD 1691

An Act To Strengthen the Charitable Solicitations Act

PUBLIC 541

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROMLEY SMITH N	OTP	

LD 1691 proposed to create consistency in the timing and content of reports submitted by charitable organizations and the parties with whom they contract in order to facilitate comparison of data regarding the reported percentage of funds raised that are remitted to the charity for program purposes and the percentage accruing to the benefit of paid professional solicitors. The bill also proposed to clarify the distinction between a professional solicitor and a professional fund-raising counsel, and to enable the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to collect financial data from professional solicitors who have, in the past, been able to withhold it by obtaining registrations as professional fund-raising counsel, as is currently permitted by law. Additionally, the bill proposed to extend the disciplinary authority of the department over entities registered under the Charitable Solicitations Act to any instance in which the provisions of the act had been violated. Finally, the bill proposed to eliminate the bonding exemption for auctioneers who become professional solicitors, professional fund-raising counsel or commercial co-venturers.