

# 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  
Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

*May 2004*

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Sen. Kenneth F. Lemont  
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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](http://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 Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

**LD 1868**

**Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 1: Procedures and Portions of Chapter 3: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions, Major Substantive Rules of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices**

**RESOLVE 136**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
	OTP-AM MAJ	H-835
	OTP-AM MIN	S-503 GAGNON S-504 MAYO

LD 1868 proposed to provide for legislative review of portions of Chapter 1: Procedures and portions of Chapter 3: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions, major substantive rules of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-835)** was the majority report of the committee and proposed to authorize final adoption of portions of Chapter 1: Procedures and portions of Chapter 3: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions with the following changes.

1. In Chapter 1, section 5, with regard the to the advance purchases of goods and services, the language must be changed to require that consulting services or the design, printing or distribution of campaign literature or advertising contracted or paid for prior to the primary election must be received prior to the primary election. The provision must also require that if a preponderance of the items purchased during the primary election cycle are used during the general election cycle, then the candidate or any other person required to file a report to the Commission on Governmental and Ethics and Election Practices shall report these as expenditures made during the general election cycle.
2. In Chapter 3, section 6, subsection 4, with regard to distribution of funds to certified Maine Clean Election Act candidates, subparagraphs (1) and (2) under paragraph A must be changed to state that if the preponderance of consulting services or the design, printing or distribution of campaign literature and advertising purchased prior to the primary election by an opponent of a certified Maine Clean Election Act candidate are used for the general election, then the certified Maine Clean Election Act candidate is entitled to a corresponding amount of matching funds.

**Committee Amendment "B" (H-836)** was the minority report of the committee and was not adopted. It proposed to authorize final adoption of the major substantive portions of Chapter 1: Procedures and portions of Chapter 3: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions with the following changes:

1. In Chapter 1, section 5, with regard to the advance purchases of goods and services, the language must be changed to require that consulting services or the design, printing or distribution of campaign literature or advertising contracted or paid for prior to the primary election must be received prior to the primary election. The provision must also require that if a preponderance of the items purchased during the primary election cycle are used during the general election cycle, then the candidate or any other person required to file a report to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices shall report these purchases as expenditures made during the general election cycle. This reporting requirement would also apply to certified Maine Clean Election Act candidates.

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2. In Chapter 3, section 6, subsection 4, with regard to distribution of funds to certified Maine Clean Election Act candidates, subparagraphs (1) and (2) under paragraph A must be changed to state that if the preponderance of consulting services or the design, printing or distribution of campaign literature and advertising purchased prior to the primary election by an opponent of a certified Maine Clean Election Act candidate are used for the general election, then the certified Maine Clean Election Act candidate is entitled to a corresponding amount of matching funds. The language must also require that if a certified Maine Clean Election Act candidate uses a preponderance of the goods and services purchased prior to the primary election during the general election, then that candidate's initial General Fund distribution must be reduced by that amount.
3. The commission shall include in the rules that when reporting expenditures for fund-raising activities, a report must indicate the net proceeds of those activities. With regard to matching funds to a certified Maine Clean Election Act candidate, only the net proceeds of fund-raising activities may be used to calculate matching funds.
4. The effective date of rules adopted in accordance with this resolve may not be until after the 2004 general election.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-503)** proposed to remove the emergency preamble and the emergency clause.

**Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-504)** proposed to specify that the effective date of the rules adopted in accordance with this resolve may not be until January 1, 2005.

### *Enacted Law Summary*

Resolve 2003, chapter 136 authorizes final adoption and directs the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to make the following changes to its major substantive rules:

1. In Chapter 1, section 5, with regard the to the advance purchases of goods and services, the language must be changed to require that consulting services or the design, printing or distribution of campaign literature or advertising contracted or paid for prior to the primary election must be received prior to the primary election. The provision must also require that if a preponderance of the items purchased during the primary election cycle are used during the general election cycle, then the candidate or any other person required to file a report to the Commission on Governmental and Ethics and Election Practices shall report these as expenditures made during the general election cycle.
2. In Chapter 3, section 6, subsection 4, with regard to distribution of funds to certified Maine Clean Election Act candidates, subparagraphs (1) and (2) under paragraph A must be changed to state that if the preponderance of consulting services or the design, printing or distribution of campaign literature and advertising purchased prior to the primary election by an opponent of a certified Maine Clean Election Act candidate are used for the general election, then the certified Maine Clean Election Act candidate is entitled to a corresponding amount of matching funds.

Chapter 136 further specifies that the effective date of the rules adopted in accordance with this resolve may not be until after January 1, 2005.