

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

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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*

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
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

LD 1878

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$65,000,000 To Finance the Acquisition of Land and Interest in Land for Conservation, Water Access, Outdoor Recreation, Wildlife and Fish Habitat and Farmland Preservation: To Fund Capital Improvements to State Parks and Other Historic Public Areas: and To Access \$30,250,000 in Matching Contributions from Public and Private Sources

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> RICHARDSON, J TREAT	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1878 proposed to provide a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$65,000,000 to be used for the purpose of recapitalizing the Land for Maine's Future program with \$60,000,000 over 3 years to continue Maine's land conservation efforts, leveraging a minimum of \$30,000,000 in required matching funds. The funding priorities include:

1. Conservation properties in the rapidly developing areas of southern and coastal Maine;
2. Public access to outdoor recreational opportunities statewide;
3. Protection via easement of traditional public access and uses in the north woods and support for sustainable forestry and strategically targeted fee acquisitions in areas of very high public value;
4. Farmland protection to support an economically viable agricultural sector;
5. Public access to coastal and inland waters; and
6. Highly significant wildlife habitat and ecological areas.

This bond issue also proposed to provide additional funds of \$5,000,000 for capital improvements to state parks, historic sites and other state-owned parks, including \$1,000,000 for Capitol Park in Augusta. This bond anticipates a total of an additional \$30,250,000 in matching funds from federal and other sources.

LD 1888

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$1,200,000 for the Downeast Institute for Applied Marine Research and Education

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DAMON PELLON	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1888 proposed to provide a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$1,200,000 to be used to purchase the property known as Black Duck Cove on Great Wass Island, which includes a 9,000 square-

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

foot building, a working wharf and 2 lobster pounds, to serve as the home of the Downeast Institute for Applied Marine Research and Education.

LD 1894 **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$2,000,000 for Disaster Relief and To Provide Further Relief Measures** **ONTP**

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

LD 1894 proposed the following:

Part A of the bill proposed to provide a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$2,000,000 to provide funding for the Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund for grants and loans for disaster relief.

Part B proposed to establish the Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Trust Fund to provide grants and loans to persons or municipalities that suffer loss as a result of disaster.

Part B also proposed to make appropriations to the Maine Emergency Management Agency to:

1. Serve as a match for federal planning assistance to develop a flood mitigation program for Androscoggin, Oxford and
2. Provide immediate assistance to private property owners in the Town of Canton who suffered damages from the flooding in late 2003.