

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

*First Regular Session and
First Special Session*

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Taxation*

August 2005

Members:

*Sen. Joseph C. Perry, Chair
Sen. Ethan Strimling
Sen. Jonathan T. E. Courtney*

*Rep. Richard G. Woodbury
Rep. Herbert E. Clark
Rep. Deborah J. Hutton
Rep. Raymond G. Pineau
Rep. Thomas R. Watson
Rep. Harold A. Clough
Rep. H. Stedman Seavey, Jr.
Rep. Earle L. McCormick
Rep. Leonard Earl Bierman
Rep. Bruce Q. Hanley*

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Maine State Legislature

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122nd Legislature
First Regular Session and First Special Session

Summary of Legislation Considered by the Joint Standing Committees
August 2005

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 organized by committees 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. A subject index for each committee is included immediately before the bill summaries for that committee, and a numerical index by LD number is included 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:

- CARRIED OVER Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session
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
OTP ND/NT Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
P&S XXX Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
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 the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 29, 2005; and for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session is September 17, 2005.

Joint Standing Committee on Taxation

LD 92

An Act To Provide for Sales Tax Exemption Reciprocity for School Groups Visiting Other Jurisdictions

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MAYO PERCY	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 92 proposed to exempt from the sales tax on meals and lodging sales to groups of schoolchildren who reside in jurisdictions outside this State that offer a similar sales tax exemption to schoolchildren visiting from this State.

LD 112

An Act To Conform Maine Estate Tax Law with Federal Estate Tax Laws

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CURLEY PERRY J	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 112 proposed to conform Maine estate tax laws with federal estate tax laws.

See also LD 436.

LD 115

An Act Enabling Municipalities To Establish Municipal Land Banks Funded by Local Option Real Estate Transfer Taxes

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> RECTOR SAVAGE	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 115 proposed to authorize municipalities to impose a municipal real estate transfer tax. It would require a municipality to approve such a tax and establish of a land bank program through the municipal referendum process. It contained restrictions on the tax rate and uses of the tax.

LD 118

An Act To Provide Tax Relief for People with Functional Limitations

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BOWLES DAVIS P	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-108
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LD 118 proposed to amend the sales tax exemption for prosthetic devices to include additional aids and mobility devices to accommodate a person's functional limitations.