

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*

Business, Research and Economic Development

August 2005

Members:

Sen. Lynn Bromley, Chair

Sen. Barry J. Hobbins

Sen. Dana L. Dow

Rep. Nancy E. Smith, Chair

Rep. Lillian LaFontaine O'Brien

Rep. Stephen R. Beaudette

Rep. Charles Earl Crosby, III

Rep. David W. Farrington

Rep. Christopher Rector

Rep. Susan M. Austin

Rep. Robert A. Berube

Rep. Lawrence E. Jacobsen

Rep. John C. Robinson

Staff:

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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 Business, Research and Economic Development

LD 191

An Act Requiring Internet Auction Registration

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DAVIS G		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 191 proposed to require an Internet auction listing service to register with the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Licensing and Registration if that service, user of the service, personal property, or a service offered for sale or lease is located or provided in the State. As part of this registration, among other requirements, the bill proposed to require that covered Internet auction listing services collect and maintain users' contact information and have policies enabling complaints to be made and users to be suspended. The bill proposed to make operation of a covered Internet auction listing service without registering a Class E crime, and proposed to establish grounds for denial or suspension of a registration and provide the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation with the authority to adopt rules to implement the registration process.

LD 192

An Act To Establish the Pine Tree Recreation Zone

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MOODY DAVIS P		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 192 proposed to establish the Pine Tree Recreation Zone as the area of the State north and east of the Androscoggin River. Businesses that establish or expand within the Pine Tree Recreation Zone operations involving outdoor recreation, such as providing services or merchandise relating to guiding, hunting, fishing, skiing, snowboarding, snowmobiling or water sports, would be eligible for tax benefits equal to those offered to businesses under the Pine Tree Development Zone program. The bill proposed to provide that these benefits would include sales tax exemptions for certain building materials and tangible personal property, exclusion from the calculation of a municipality's tax increment financing district within the Pine Tree Recreation Zone, employment tax increment financing for a fixed period of years and state income tax credits for a fixed number of years.

This bill was carried over by H.P. 1203 to the next special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature.

LD 208

An Act To Lower the Surety Bond Requirement for Payroll Processors

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> O'BRIEN		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 208 proposed to lower the minimum amount of surety bonding required to be purchased by payroll processors from \$100,000 to \$10,000 and lower the maximum required surety bonding from \$500,000 to \$50,000.