

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

*First Regular Session and
First Special Session*

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Criminal Justice and Public Safety*

August 2005

Members:

Sen. Bill Diamond, Chair

Sen. John M. Nutting

Sen. Dean F. Clukey

Rep. Patricia A. Blanchette, Chair

Rep. Stan Gerzofsky

Rep. Carol A. Grose

Rep. Rosaire "Ross" Paradis, Jr.

Rep. Stephen P. Hanley

Rep. Richard M. Sykes

Rep. John W. Churchill

Rep. Christian D. Greeley

Rep. Kimberly J. Davis

Rep. Gary E. Plummer

Staff:

Marion Hylan Barr, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

13 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

(207) 287-1670



Maine State Legislature

OFFICE OF POLICY & LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Room 215 Cross State Office Building
Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

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 Criminal Justice and Public Safety

2. Add to the list of juvenile crimes for which prosecution must be commenced within one year after being committed the willful refusal to obey a court order resulting from a conviction of a crime for a violation of a provision of Title 12 or Title 29-A that is not specifically included in the list of juvenile crimes in Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph E or F;
3. Return the juvenile crime in Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph D to the list of crimes requiring proof beyond a reasonable doubt. This crime was inadvertently added to the list of crimes requiring proof by a preponderance of the evidence; and
4. Add an application section to specify that the repeal of the statute of limitations applies to juvenile crimes of unlawful sexual contact and gross sexual assault committed on or after the effective date of the Act and to juvenile crimes of unlawful sexual contact and gross sexual assault not already barred by the previous statute of limitations.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-125) proposed to remove language that eliminated the statute of limitations for the juvenile crimes of unlawful sexual contact and gross sexual assault in cases in which the victim had not attained 16 years of age at the time of the crime and the juvenile had attained 16 years of age. The amendment proposed to provide instead that the statute of limitations does not apply to such crimes if the attorney for the State first presents evidence based on DNA to the court in a closed hearing that implicates the defendant in the crime by a preponderance of the evidence.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 87 provides that the statute of limitations does not apply for the juvenile crimes of unlawful sexual contact and gross sexual assault in cases where the victim had not attained 18 years of age at the time of the crime and the juvenile offender had attained 16 years of age, if the attorney for the State first presents evidence based on DNA to the court in a closed hearing that implicates the defendant in the crime by a preponderance of the evidence.

Public Law 2005, chapter 87 adds to the list of juvenile crimes for which prosecution must be commenced within one year after being committed the willful refusal to obey a court order resulting from a conviction of a crime for a violation of a provision of Title 12 or Title 29-A that is not specifically included in the list of juvenile crimes in Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph E or F.

Public Law 2005, chapter 87 also amends the standard of proof so that juvenile crimes involving illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia and those involving intoxicating liquor that, if committed by an adult, would constitute civil offenses, are established by a preponderance of evidence rather than proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

LD 251

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Custodian Release Conditions

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
SHERMAN

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 251 proposed to clarify the laws governing custodian release conditions to specify that the condition of preconviction bail requiring supervision of the defendant does not mean that the defendant must be in the presence of the supervisor 24 hours a day, seven days a week.