

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
122nd Legislature*

*Second Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

*July 2006*

**Members:**

*Sen. Kenneth T. Gagnon, Chair  
Sen. Elizabeth H. Mitchell  
Sen. Debra D. Plowman*

*Rep. John L. Patrick, Chair  
Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr.  
Rep. Charles D. Fisher  
Rep. Linda M. Valentino  
Rep. Randy E. Hotham  
Rep. Richard B. Brown  
Rep. Gary W. Moore*

*Rep. David N. Ott  
Rep. Wright H. Pinkham, Sr.  
Rep. Joan M. Nass  
Rep. Frederick J. Moore, III*

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# Maine State Legislature



## Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Office of Fiscal and Program Review

### 122nd Maine Legislature Second Regular 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 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 (Pocket Veto).....	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 August 23, 2006.

*Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs*

**LD 496**

**An Act To Extend Term Limits**

**DIED BETWEEN  
BODIES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CANAVAN	OTP-AM MAJ	
GAGNON	ONTP MIN	

LD 496 proposed to extend the number of years of service authorized under the term limits law from 8 to 12 for Legislators. The bill would have required that the voters of the State vote on this matter at the statewide election held in the year 2005.

**Committee Amendment “A” (H-729)** proposed to replace the bill. This amendment proposed to repeal term limits for state Senators and members of the state House of Representatives subject to approval by voters at a referendum to be held in November 2006. The repeal would have applied to terms beginning December 6, 2006.

**House Amendment “A” (H-811)** proposed to clarify that the 8-year term limits would have applied to anyone serving in the 122nd Legislature. Persons elected for the first time or to a nonconsecutive term in the 123rd Legislature would have had term limits of 12 years. The amendment also proposed to change the referendum to make it coincide with the next general election in November.

LD 496 was carried over by the Legal and Veterans’ Affairs Committee to the Second Regular Session of the 122<sup>nd</sup> Legislature.

**House Amendment “A” to Committee Amendment “A” (H-733)** proposed to present 3 questions to the voters of the State to vote on at the general election held in the year 2006. The first question would have been whether the voters wish to extend the number of years of service authorized under the term limits law from 8 to 16 for Legislators. The 2nd question would have been whether the voters wish to repeal term limits for state Senators and members of the House of Representatives. The 3rd question would have been whether the voters wish to retain the existing law that establishes term limits of 8 years for Legislators.

**Senate Amendment “A” to Committee Amendment “A” (S-433)** presents 3 questions to the voters of the State to vote on at the general election held in the year 2006. The first question is whether the voters wish to extend the number of years of service authorized under the term limits law from 8 to 16 for Legislators. The 2nd question is whether the voters wish to repeal term limits for state Senators and members of the House of Representatives. The 3rd question is whether the voters wish to retain the existing law that establishes term limits of 8 years for Legislators.