

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
State and Local Government*

August 2005

Members:

*Sen. Elizabeth M. Schneider, Chair
Sen. Margaret Rotundo
Sen. Mary Black Andrews*

*Rep. Christopher R. Barstow, Chair
Rep. Sonya G. Sampson
Rep. Richard D. Blanchard
Rep. Charles William Harlow
Rep. James M. Schatz
Rep. Robert H. Crosthwaite
Rep. George R. Bishop, Jr.
Rep. Howard E. McFadden
Rep. Bradley S. Moulton
Rep. Roberta M. Muse*

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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.

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LD 532 **Resolve, To Recognize April 6, 2005 as the National Day of Hope** **RESOLVE 6
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> ANDREWS LEWIN		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-19
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LD 532 proposed to declare April 6, 2005 as the National Day of Hope.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-19) proposed to change the title and change the language of declaring a National Day of Hope to recognizing the National Day of Hope.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2005, chapter 6 recognizes the National Day of Hope observed on April 6, 2005.

Resolve 2005, chapter 6 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 1, 2005.

LD 551 **An Act To Amend the Budget Timetable for Oxford County** **PUBLIC 29**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> HANLEY B HASTINGS		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 551 proposed to change the date by which the Oxford County commissioners must approve the county budget from December 15th to the 3rd Tuesday in December.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 29 changes the date by which the Oxford County commissioners must approve the county budget from December 15th to the 3rd Tuesday in December.

LD 557 **An Act To Provide Relief from the Cost of Rescue Services to
Certain Communities** **PUBLIC 413**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CARR SCHNEIDER		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-317 S-396 ROTUNDO
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LD 557 proposed to require the State to reimburse communities of fewer than 200 people that have no Interstate 95 exit within the town limits of that town for those communities' costs of providing fire, ambulance or other rescue services for accidents that occur on Interstate 95. This reimbursement is both for communities whose own

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services are dispatched to the accident and for communities that do not have their own services but help pay for services dispatched from other communities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-317) proposed to add an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-396) proposed to allow for reimbursement to small communities for providing rescue services for accidents that occur on Interstate 95. The amendment proposed to establish the Reimbursement for Rescue Services Fund and allow the Commissioner of Public Safety to accept money from any source to fund the fund.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 413 allows the State to reimburse communities of fewer than 200 people that have no Interstate 95 exit within the town limits of that town for those communities' costs of providing fire, ambulance or other rescue services for accidents that occur on Interstate 95. It establishes the Reimbursement for Rescue Services Fund and allows the Commissioner of Public Safety to accept money from any source to fund the fund.

LD 562 **An Act To Improve Public Understanding in Rulemaking** **DIED BETWEEN HOUSES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVIELLO	OTP-AM MAJ	
NUTTING J	ONTP MIN	

LD 562 proposed to require the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the Department of Conservation, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to make available to the public primary sources of information that support the primary provisions in proposed rules.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-101) proposed to require a rule-making agency to make the principal source of information for a rule available to the public. It also widens the scope of this requirement to apply to all government agencies and departments. The Act would be repealed on October 15, 2007.

LD 567 **An Act To Require Legislative Approval for the State To Accept a Gift of 100 Acres or More of Land** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P	ONTP MAJ	
JODREY	OTP MIN	

LD 567 proposed to require legislative approval for the State to accept a gift of land of 100 acres or more.