

# 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

LD 862

## An Act To Improve the Collection of Restitution and Supervision Fees

PUBLIC 389

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLANCHETTE CLUKEY	OTP-AM	H-669

LD 862 proposed to clarify the obligation of offenders by requiring the court to be clearer when ordering restitution and, in cases of joint and several restitution orders, by giving the department and the district attorneys the ability to continue to collect from offenders and distribute money back to offenders. The bill proposed to require that supervision fees be ordered only once for concurrent crimes. Finally, the bill proposed to clarify issues regarding disbursement of fines to the courts.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-669)** proposed to provide that records pertaining to a crime victim's current address or location or from which the current address or location could be determined are confidential, except for current statutory exceptions. The amendment proposed to give the court authority to deviate from joint and several liability in cases involving more than one defendant only if the court determines that a defendant should not equally share the burden of restitution. The amendment also proposed to provide that if a tax refund is used to offset restitution owed to a crime victim, the collection fee may not be deducted from the amount owed to the victim.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2005, chapter 389 does the following:

1. Clarifies the obligation of offenders by requiring the court to be clearer when ordering restitution and, in cases of joint and several restitution orders, by giving the department and the district attorneys the ability to continue to collect from offenders and distribute money back to offenders. The court may deviate from joint and several liability in cases involving more than one defendant only if the court determines that a defendant should not equally share the burden of restitution;
2. Provides that if a tax refund is used to offset restitution owed to a crime victim, the collection fee may not be deducted from the amount owed to the victim;
3. Requires that supervision fees be ordered only once for concurrent crimes;
4. Clarifies issues regarding disbursement of fines to the courts; and
5. Provides that records pertaining to a crime victim's current address or location or from which the current address or location could be determined are confidential, except for current statutory exceptions.

The bill as amended was reviewed and evaluated by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 434, which requires review and evaluation of new exceptions to laws governing public records.