

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
Labor*

August 2005

Members:

*Sen. Ethan Strimling, Chair
Sen. Philip L. Bartlett, II
Sen. Lois A. Snowe-Mello*

*Rep. William J. Smith, Chair
Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr.
Rep. Deborah J. Hutton
Rep. Troy D. Jackson
Rep. Herbert E. Clark
Rep. Timothy E. Driscoll
Rep. Brian M. Duprey
Rep. Philip A. Cressey, Jr.
Rep. Darren M. Hall
Rep. James M. Hamper*

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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 Labor

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 324 provides that, for an expired collective bargaining agreement signed after October 1, 2005, the grievance arbitration provisions of the collective bargaining agreement that concern what is commonly known as the "static status quo" remain in effect until a new contract is executed. The law gives the Maine Labor Relations Board authority over disputes concerning the application of the static status quo doctrine, as well as rulemaking authority to implement the amendment's purposes. The law further provides that a grievance appealed to arbitration is subject exclusively to arbitration, and that grievance arbitration will be stayed pending resolution of a dispute over application of the static status quo doctrine by the Maine Labor Relations Board.

LD 1143

An Act To Protect Workers in the Mortgage and Mortgage Refinance Services Fields

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LERMAN		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1143 proposed to specify that salespeople working for mortgage companies are not exempt from the laws governing minimum wages.

LD 1170

An Act To Exempt Fire Departments from Biweekly Pay Requirements for Volunteer Firefighters

PUBLIC 126

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SAVAGE COLLINS		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-113
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LD 1170 proposed to allow a municipal fire department to pay volunteer firefighters on a semiannual basis, instead of at least every 16 days as required by current law.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-113) proposed to clarify that fire departments may pay volunteer firefighters every 6 months or more frequently.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 126 clarifies that fire departments may pay volunteer firefighters every 6 months or more frequently.