

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Judiciary*

July 2006

Members:

Sen. Barry J. Hobbins, Chair

Sen. Lynn Bromley

Sen. David R. Hastings III

Rep. Deborah L. Simpson, Chair

Rep. Sean Faircloth

Rep. Stan Gerzofsky

Rep. Marilyn E. Canavan

Rep. Mark E. Bryant

Rep. Michael Edward Dunn

Rep. Roger L. Sherman

Rep. Roderick W. Carr

Rep. Joan Bryant-Deschenes

Rep. Joan M. Nass

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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).

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
ONT P.....	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 Judiciary

Supreme Judicial Court. The advisory committee, with membership reflecting a spectrum of interests, was proposed to work to develop proposals to implement the new pilot project, determine relevant measurable outcomes and determine other areas of technology or infrastructure that could add additional efficiencies throughout Maine courts. (Committee Amendment “A” was not adopted.)

LD 1518 as amended was carried over to the Second Regular Session on the Special Appropriations Table. The positions and funding supporting the Business and Consumer Specialized Civil Docket were included in the Supplemental Budget, LD 1968, Public Law 2005, chapter 519, Part JJJ.

LD 1526

An Act To Enact the Uniform Parentage Act and Conforming Amendments and Additional Amendments to Laws Concerning Probate, Adoption, Child Support, Child Protection and Other Family Law Issues

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1526 proposed to do the following:

PART A

Part A of this bill proposed to enact the Maine version of the Uniform Parentage Act. Separate Maine comments were included to explain deviations from the uniform act.

PART B

Part B proposed to contain amendments to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 4 and Title 19-A provisions concerning paternity and child support to make them consistent with the Uniform Parentage Act.

PART C

Part C proposed to amend the intestate succession provisions of the Probate Code so that children would inherit from parents as recognized in the Uniform Parentage Act and parents recognized by the Uniform Parentage Act would inherit from their children.

PART D

Part D of the bill proposed to amend the adoption laws, guardianship laws and child protection laws to be consistent with the Uniform Parentage Act.

PART E

Part E proposed to make cross-reference changes.