

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*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Labor*

July 2006

Staff:

John T. Mitchell, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670*

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*

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
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 Labor

LD 1719

**An Act To Establish the Administrative Operating Budget for the
Maine State Retirement System for the Fiscal Year Ending June
30, 2007**

**P & S 36
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-762

LD 1719 proposed to establish the annual administrative operating budget for the Maine State Retirement System for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007. The budget would include total allocations of \$10,958,309, of which \$7,421,590 is attributed to the General Fund. It proposed to authorize a new expenditure of \$200,000 toward the cost of a complete line-of-business automated computer system that, among other uses and functions, will replace the current benefits payroll technology.

Committee Amendment “A” (H-762) proposed to incorporate a fiscal note.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 36 establishes the annual administrative operating budget for the Maine State Retirement System for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007. The budget includes total allocations of \$10,958,309, of which \$7,421,590 is attributed to the General Fund. It authorizes a new expenditure of \$200,000 toward the cost of a complete line-of-business automated computer system that, among other uses and functions, will replace the current benefits payroll technology.

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 36 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 1, 2006.

LD 1747

An Act To Assist Maine Military Families

**PUBLIC 523
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)
SCHNEIDER
FISHER

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-492

LD 1747, containing emergency clauses, proposed to require an employer with 50 or more employees to provide up to 15 days per year of leave to an employee who is the spouse or parent of a Maine resident called to military service. The bill proposed that the leave may be unpaid and would only be available during the time federal or state deployment orders are in effect. The deployment would have to last longer than 180 days in order for a spouse or parent employee to be eligible. The spouse or parent employee would have to provide notice to the employer and could take leave under the section only if all other accrued vacation, personal and compensatory leave had been exhausted. The bill would require an employer to make it possible for a spouse or parent employee to continue employee benefits during leave taken and would provide a cause of action for enforcement and equitable relief.

Committee Amendment “A” (S-492) proposed to strike language in the bill that included independent contractors in the definition of “employee.” It proposed to add domestic partners to the list of those who could take family military leave, to provide for leave on a deployment rather than calendar year basis and to change the