

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
122nd Legislature*

*Second Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

*July 2006*

**Members:**

*Sen. Margaret Rotundo, Chair  
Sen. John L. Martin  
Sen. Richard A. Nass*

*Rep. Joseph C. Brannigan  
Rep. Benjamin F. Dudley  
Rep. Margaret M. Craven  
Rep. Jeremy Fischer  
Rep. Arthur L. Lerman  
Rep. Janet T. Mills  
Rep. H. Sawin Millett, Jr.  
Rep. Robert W. Nutting  
Rep. Stephen Bowen  
Rep. Darlene J. Curley*

**Staff:**

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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](http://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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

**LD 1737**

**An Act To Provide Funding for the Construction of a Regional Career Center**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DIAMOND TARDY	ONTP	

LD 1737 proposed a one-time appropriation of \$780,000 in fiscal year 2006-07 to the Spurwink School for the construction of a regional career vocational center in the Town of Casco to provide career training and services, including technical training, job placement and transitional services, to teens and adults who are 20 years of age and younger.

**LD 1891**

**An Act To Provide Funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program**

**P & S 29  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RICHARDSON J EDMONDS		

LD 1891 proposed a \$5,000,000 General Fund appropriation to the Maine State Housing Authority for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and specified that the funds may be used only for fuel purchases. The bill was not referred to a committee and was adopted as originally proposed and enacted as 2005 P & S, c. 29.

***Enacted law summary***

Private and Special 2005, chapter 29 provides a \$5,000,000 General Fund appropriation to the Maine State Housing Authority for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and specifies that the funds may be used only for fuel purchases.

Private and Special 2005, chapter 29 was enacted as an emergency measure effective January 5, 2006.

**LD 1905**

**An Act To Conserve Energy in Maine Homes**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FLETCHER	ONTP	

LD 1905 proposed to establish the Weatherization Assistance Program to be administered by the Maine State Housing Authority to provide funds or materials to eligible households to improve the energy efficiency of the homes of those eligible households. The program was to be funded by an annual allocation of \$7,500,000 of the funds from the real estate transfer tax that are transferred to the Maine State Housing Authority. This bill further proposed to strike current law that requires the \$7,500,000 to go to the General Fund in fiscal year 2006-07.