

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

July 2006

Members:

*Sen. Kenneth T. Gagnon, Chair
Sen. Elizabeth H. Mitchell
Sen. Debra D. Plowman*

*Rep. John L. Patrick, Chair
Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr.
Rep. Charles D. Fisher
Rep. Linda M. Valentino
Rep. Randy E. Hotham
Rep. Richard B. Brown
Rep. Gary W. Moore*

*Rep. David N. Ott
Rep. Wright H. Pinkham, Sr.
Rep. Joan M. Nass
Rep. Frederick J. Moore, III*

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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
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.

LD 2033

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine To Clarify Deadlines for Submitting Direct Initiatives to
Municipal Officials for Signature Verification**

CON RES 2

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM MAJ	H-895 PATRICK
	ONTP MIN	S-513
		S-544 PLOWMAN

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to specify that signatures on a citizen's petition for direct initiative of legislation that are submitted to municipal officials for signature certification after the deadline established in the Constitution are invalid. This resolution also eliminates language specifically invalidating signatures that are older than one year.

Committee Amendment “A” (S-513) replaced the bill and propose to amend the Constitution of Maine to specify that signatures on a citizens' petition for direct initiative or people's veto of legislation must be submitted to municipal or state officials by the deadline established in the Constitution in order to be certified. This resolution would also require that a petition for a direct initiative must be filed with the Secretary of State no later than 18 months after the Secretary of State approves the form of the petition.

House Amendment “A” to Committee Amendment “A” (H-895) proposed to clarify that the establishment of an 18-month period in which a direct initiative petition may be circulated is in conjunction with when it is due to the Secretary of State's office.

Senate Amendment “A” to Committee Amendment “A” (S-544) proposed to amend Committee Amendment “A” by maintaining the provision in the Constitution of Maine requiring the officials to return certified petitions to circulators.

Enacted law summary

Constitutional Resolution 2005, chapter 2 proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to specify that signatures on a citizens’ petition for direct initiative or people’s veto of legislation must be submitted to municipal or state officials by the deadline established in the Constitution in order to be certified. This resolution also requires that a petition for a direct initiative must be filed with the Secretary of State no later than 18 months after the Secretary of State approves the form of the petition.