

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
122nd Legislature*

*Second Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Business, Research and Economic Development*

*July 2006*

**Members:**

*Sen. Lynn Bromley, Chair*

*Sen. Barry J. Hobbins*

*Sen. Dana L. Dow*

*Rep. Nancy E. Smith, Chair*

*Rep. Lillian LaFontaine O'Brien*

*Rep. Stephen R. Beaudette*

*Rep. Charles Earl Crosby, III*

*Rep. David W. Farrington*

*Rep. Christopher Rector*

*Rep. Susan M. Austin*

*Rep. Robert A. Berube*

*Rep. Lawrence E. Jacobsen*

*Rep. John C. Robinson*

**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 Business, Research and Economic Development*

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2005, chapter 650 creates a military redevelopment zone that allows a municipality within a labor market that contains a military facility scheduled for closure to apply to the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to become a military redevelopment zone. The law provides that the total area available for designation as a military redevelopment zone may not exceed 1,500 acres. The law establishes that up to 500 acres may be available for designation outside a military facility boundary, as long as applications are received by the commissioner by August 1, 2011 and up to 1,000 acres may be reserved for property within the boundaries of the military base, as long as applications are received between the date of the military facility's closure and 7 years following the date of closure. Finally, the law also waives the labor market unemployment and wage restrictions for businesses located in a military redevelopment zone.

**LD 1957**

**An Act To Establish the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority**

**PUBLIC 599  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> RICHARDSON J		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-981
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LD 1957 proposed to establish a redevelopment authority for Brunswick Naval Air Station.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-981)** proposed to require that a vacancy on the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the balance of the unexpired term. In addition, the amendment proposed to require that bonds may not be issued by the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority until the authority has received a certificate of approval from the Finance Authority of Maine authorizing issuance of the bonds.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2005, chapter 599 establishes a redevelopment authority for Brunswick Naval Air Station that is responsible for acquiring and managing the properties within the geographic boundaries of the Brunswick Naval Air Station.

Public Law 2005, chapter 599 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 27, 2006.

**LD 2047**

**An Act To Provide for the 2006 and 2007 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds**

**P & S 48  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BROMLEY SMITH N		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-510
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LD 2047 proposed to establish the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt bonds for calendar years 2006 and 2007. Under federal law, a maximum of \$246,610,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private

## *Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development*

individuals or entities may be issued in Maine each year in 2006 and 2007. This bill proposed to allocate the state ceiling among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-510)** proposed to correct the year of an allocation to the Finance Authority of Maine and correct the amount of the unallocated state ceiling for the year 2006.

### *Enacted law summary*

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 48 establishes the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt bonds for calendar years 2006 and 2007. Under federal law, a maximum of \$246,610,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in Maine each year in 2006 and 2007. This law allocates the state ceiling among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds.

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 48 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 7, 2006.

**LD 2076**

**An Act Relating to Payday Loans**

**PUBLIC 604**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
H-982

LD 2076 proposed to define "payday loan" and clarify that the Maine Consumer Credit Code applies to a payday lender, wherever located, that makes a payday loan to a consumer located in this State.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-982)** proposed to replace the bill. This amendment proposed to provide for the integration of the regulation of Internet-based payday lending into the Maine Consumer Credit Code. It proposed to add a definition of "payday loan" in the definition section of the Code and amend the territorial application provision of the Code to clarify that it applies to payday lenders, wherever located, that make payday loans to consumers in this State.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2005, chapter 604 provides for the integration of the regulation of Internet-based payday lending into the Maine Consumer Credit Code. The law includes the definition of "payday loan" in the definition section of the Code and amends the territorial application provision of the Code to clarify that it applies to payday lenders, wherever located, that provide payday loans to consumers in this State.

**LD 2089**

**An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Home Construction  
Contracts To Increase Consumer Awareness**

**PUBLIC 619**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
H-1006

LD 2089 proposed to require residential construction contractors to register with the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to provide consumers with access to relevant financial and business information