MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

Prepared by:

David Elliot and William T. Glidden, Legislative Assistants Andrea Colnes, Research Assistant Office of Legislative Assistants State House, Station 13 Augusta, Maine 04333 (207) 289-1670



HELEN T. GINDER, DIRECTOR
HAVEN WHITESIDE, ASST. DIRECTOR
GILBERT W. BREWER
DAVID ELLIOTT
MARTHA FREEMAN
CHRISTOS GIANOPOULOS
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR.

STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANTS ROOM 101 STATE HOUSE, STATION 13 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333 TEL.: (207) 289-2486

SARAH HOOKE
JULIE S. JONES
JOHN B. KNOX
EDWARD POTTER
MARGARET J. REINSCH
LARS RYDELL
JOHN SELSER
ANDREA COLNES, RES. ASST.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE BILL SUMMARIES JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

LD:

978

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF CHEMICAL INSECTICIDES IN THE STATE BUDWORM SUPPRESSION PROGRAM AFTER 1985

BROWN L MITCHELL WILLEY

MAJ ONTP MIN OTP-ND HOUSE Accepted MAJ Committee Report SENATE Accepted MAJ Committee Report GOV

SUMMARY:

The original bill would have prohibited the use of any chemical insecticide in the state spruce budworm control program after December 31,1985. The Maine Forest Service and the forest products industry strongly opposed the bill claiming that the insecticides registered for use were thoroughly tested and posed no unacceptable environmental or public health risks. Proponents argued that economically viable and safer control alternatives exist which could replace chemical insectides. The claims of both sides were disputed. The majority of the committee recommended an ought not to pass report which was ultimately accepted in both the House and Senate. The minority report, ought to pass in new draft (see LD 1458), was initially accepted in the Senate. The new draft proposed a special state registration process for all insecticides used in the spruce budworm control program. After review of all federally registered insectides, the state would have registered only that insectide which posed the lowest risks to human health and the environment. Other insectides would be eligible for "reserve status" registration. Their use would be permitted only when the preferred insectide was not available or was not likely to be effective.

LD: 985 AN ACT CONCERNING COMMERCIAL FISHING AND MARITIME ACTIVITY ZONES

SEWALL

OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted SENATE Enacted

PUBLIC CH # 236

GOU SIGNED

S-90 CA H S

SUMMARY:

The bill amended the Shoreland Zoning Law to allow the establishment of "maritime activity zones" within which commercial fishing, maritime and related support activities would be favored. Zoning criteria were established. The committee removed two provisions of the bill regarding DEP assistance and rule-making which were redundant with the department's existing authority.