

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

JULY 1989

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Sen. Edgar E. Erwin
Sen. Margaret G. Ludwig

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1989

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number for each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are abbreviated as follows:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

DONALD
MICHAUD
DEXTER
LORD

ONTP

SUMMARY

This bill would have allowed owners of small, private, natural ponds and lakes to use aquatic pesticides to reclaim waters. The pesticides would have had to be administered by professional applicators licensed by the Board of Pesticides Control. However, there are several problems with this approach.

First, the Department of Environmental Protection presently exempts private artificial ponds which do not have an outlet or where the outlet can be blocked because these are not considered waters of the state, and do not flow to waters of state. Natural lakes and ponds including those less than 10 acres are waters of the state as are the fish they support. The unregulated use of pesticides on these ponds is not consistent with other lake management practices of the state.

A second problem was that there is no provision in the bill to protect downstream waters. Rotenone, the common agent used for reclamation is a persistent, broad spectrum pesticide that if not carefully used can cause serious damage over a period of months. Thus, the committee voted not to pass the bill.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

KANY
LORD
MICHAUD
JACQUES

SUMMARY

LD 1725 represents a major overhaul of the underground oil storage law and the rights and remedies available to both victims of oil pollution, and to the State in enforcing the law. It also makes technical corrections to the laws relating to underground storage tanks to be more consistent with federal law. For these reasons and its late introduction, the committee asked to carry it over to the next session.