

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
115TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
AGRICULTURE

MAY 1992

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**MAY 1992**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the far right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of enacted Resolve
CON RES XXX	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
EMERGENCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
CARRIED OVER	Bill carried over to Special Session
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass report accepted
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw report accepted
INDEF PP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House and Senate disagree; bill died
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE	Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree
VETO SUSTAINED	Legislature filed to override Governor's Veto
UNSIGNED	Not signed by Governor within 10 days
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin, especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

House Amendment "B" (H-1278) requires animal control shelters to hold dogs at least 8 days before euthanasia unless a veterinarian authorizes euthanasia for medical reasons. The amendment allows the shelter to assume ownership of a dog for the purposes of adoption immediately upon determining that the dog is abandoned. The amendment also requires animal control shelters to establish and collect fees to offset the cost of keeping dogs beyond 6 days when the dog is reclaimed or adopted.

Senate Amendment "H" (S-783) delays the 1991-92 portion of the working capital advance until after July 1, 1993. It also adds a definition for "abandoned dog" and deletes a deappropriation in conflict with the budget bill.

**LD 2044      An Act Concerning the Shared Use of Crop-handling Equipment      LV/WD**  
**by Seed Potato Growers**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
MAHANY	LV/WD	

**SUMMARY**

This bill provided that if 2 or more seed potato growers shared crop-handling equipment and the seed potatoes of one grower were not certified because of the presence of pathogens, then the seed potatoes of the other growers could not be certified unless the equipment had been washed and disinfected under the supervision of a certified seed potato inspector.

**LD 2066      An Act Concerning the Management of the Potato Marketing      ONTP**  
**Improvement Fund**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
PINES LUDWIG	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill allowed Potato Marketing Improvement Fund borrowers to purchase their own mortgages at a discount. The bill addressed the concern that the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources might be unable to protect its interest in collateral at a foreclosure or other forced sale because of insufficient availability of funds. The bill allowed the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to sell enough of the loan portfolio to raise sufficient cash to address such an emergency.

**LD 2087      An Act to Allow the State Harness Racing Commission to Adopt      PUBLIC 677**  
**a Controlled Medication Program      EMERGENCY**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
TARDY	OTP-AM	H-950

**SUMMARY**

This bill authorizes the State Harness Racing Commission to adopt a controlled medication program that permits controlled medication to be administered to race horses. Committee Amendment "A" (H-950) corrected wording errors and added a fiscal note to the bill. See bill summary for LD 2186.