

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

JULY 1993

**Staff:**

*Tim Glidden, Principal Analyst  
Patrick Norton, Legislative Analyst  
Deborah Friedman, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101, State House Station 13  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207)287-1670*

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JOHN G. KELLEY, RESEARCHER  
DARLENE A. SHORES LYNCH, RESEARCHER  
CARRIE C. McFADDEN, RESEARCHER

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
ROOM 101/107/135  
STATE HOUSE STATION 13  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
TEL: (207) 287-1670  
FAX (207) 287-1275

**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**JULY 1993**

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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 right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

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

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.

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

4693NRG

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have prohibited the killing of certain plant species in coastal sand dune systems and coastal wetlands. The bill would have allowed harvesting of portions of certain plant species in those areas in accordance with rules adopted by the Commissioner of Conservation.

Committee amendment "A" (H-255) changed the title and replaced the bill. The amendment allows persons lawfully harvesting marine organisms or vegetation under marine resource laws to engage in those activities in a coastal wetland without a permit from the Department of Environmental Protection. The amendment also clarifies that soil disturbances or removal of vegetation in coastal wetlands during the conduct of those lawful activities is not a violation of the natural resources protection laws.

House amendment "A" (H-275) was presented on behalf of the Committee on Bills in Second Reading to correct a technical error.

**LD 968**      **An Act to Establish a Moratorium on the Search for a  
Maine Site for Low-level Radioactive Waste Disposal, to  
Impose Additional Duties on the Low-level Radioactive Waste  
Authority and to Provide for a Review of the State's Role  
in the Storage and Disposal of Low-level Radioactive Waste**      **ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
FARNSWORTH                      ONTP

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have imposed a 2-year moratorium on the low-level radioactive waste disposal facility siting process. During that period, the Advisory Commission on Radioactive Waste would have been charged with reviewing the State's role and policy in the siting process; the structure and composition of, and the procedures used by, the Maine Low-level Radioactive Waste Authority; and the existing state law and its relationship with federal law, precedent and municipal ordinances.

**LD 975**      **An Act to Allow for the Use of Multi-layered Packages**      **CARRIED OVER**

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
BUSTIN  
ALIBERTI

**SUMMARY**

This bill amends the State's ban on composite beverage containers to clarify that only those containers that are not lightweight and can not be recycled through commercially available technological processes are banned. The bill also exempts this type of beverage container from coverage by the beverage container deposit law. The committee voted to carry over the bill. (See also LD 256)

**LD 990**      **An Act to Supplement Environmental Enforcement**      **CARRIED OVER**

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
COLES

**SUMMARY**

This bill allows a Maine resident to initiate an enforcement action for an alleged violation of laws protecting the environment and the State's natural resources. The committee voted to carry over the bill.