

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**MAY 1994**

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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**MAY 1994**

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, 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:

*PUBLIC XXX*

*P&S XXX*

*RESOLVE XXX*

*CON RES XXX*

*EMERGENCY*

*ONTP*

*INDEF PP*

*FAILED ENACTMENT*

*FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT*

*FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*

*DIED BETWEEN BODIES*

*CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*

*VETO SUSTAINED*

*UNSIGNED*

*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*

*Chapter # of enacted Public Law*

*Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*

*Chapter # of enacted Resolve*

*Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses*

*Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days*

*Ought Not to Pass report accepted*

*Bill Indefinitely Postponed*

*Bill failed to get majority vote*

*Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote*

*Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote*

*House & Senate disagree; bill died*

*Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died*

*Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto*

*Not signed by Governor within 10 days*

*Action incomplete when session ended; bill died*

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If you have any suggestions or comments on the summaries, please let us know.

5581LHS

**LD 1884      An Act to Ensure Proper Funding of the Department of  
Environmental Protection**

PUBLIC 735

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
MARSH	OTP-AM      MAJ	H-1120
	ONTP      MIN	

**SUMMARY**

LD 1884 proposed to increase waste discharge license fees, fees for permits under the natural resource protection laws and fees for permits under the site location of development laws. The bill also proposed to create a separate account for holding escrow funds and other special purpose funds and to consolidate air licensing fees into the Maine Environmental Protection Fund.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-1120) replaced the bill. The conference committee amendment strikes those provisions of the bill that increase waste discharge license fees and revised downward the increases proposed in the bill for permits issued under the natural resource protection laws and the site location of development laws. The conference committee amendment transfers \$184,000 from the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund at the Department of Environmental Protection to the Maine Environmental Protection Fund for the purpose of supporting 3 positions for fiscal year 1994-95. Prior to the end of fiscal year 1995-96, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection is required to reimburse the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund the full \$184,000 using funds from the Maine Environmental Protection Fund. Money to repay the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund will be derived from increases in natural resource protection and site location of development license fees that will take effect on July 1, 1995.

The conference committee amendment also retains those provisions of the bill that combine air licensing fees into the Maine Environmental Protection Fund and that allow the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to create a separate account for holding escrow funds and other special purpose funds.

The conference committee amendment also corrects a technical conflict created by the enactment of conflicting public laws during the First Regular Session of the 116th Legislature. That conflict pertained to fees and licensing terms for residential and commercial overboard discharge licenses. Changes necessary to correct that conflict are made retroactive to July 1, 1993, the date the Legislature intended those changes to take effect.

The conference committee amendment adds new allocation sections and a new fiscal note.

**LD 1888      An Act to Expedite Oil Spill Response Activities**

PUBLIC 579

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
JACQUES	OTP-AM	H-808

**SUMMARY**

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to waive or modify the requirements of the State's water protection and improvement laws when such waiver or modification is necessary to facilitate oil spill response activity.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT A (H-808) requires that waivers issued by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection for oil spill response activities must be in writing. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.