

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

JULY 1997

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Sen. Judy Paradis

Sen. R. Leo Kieffer

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ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 1997

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the 15 Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature staffed by this office. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill, committee amendments and other relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken on the bill. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized alphabetically by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Regular Session</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>OTP ND/NT</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 26, 1997 and September 19, 1997 for the First Special Session.

David E. Boulter, Director
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

acres in size to ensure the maintenance and enhancement of timber sustainability, the economic viability of forest management and the State's forest biodiversity. It proposes changes to the Bureau of Forestry's natural resource education program and directs the bureau's natural resource educator to develop partnerships and funding sources for creating new natural resource education initiatives for the public.

The bill proposes authorization of an ecological forest reserve on public lands, totaling between 8,000 and 10,000 acres. It also would direct the Maine Forest Service to undertake a study of liquidation harvesting and make recommendations to further restrict the practice.

LD 1809

Resolve, Authorizing the Exchange and Sale of Certain Public Lands

RESOLVE 52

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PARADIS BELANGER D	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-295
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LD 1809 proposed authorizing the sale of certain parcels of public land under control of the Bureau of Parks and Lands.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-295) proposed a technical amendment, adding a cross-reference to the preamble of the resolve.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 52 authorizes sale of the State's common and undivided 3/4 interest in approximately 54 acres located in the Town of Fort Kent. The State has entered into a purchase and sale contract with an abutting landowner to sell the State's common and undivided interest for \$12,800, which exceeds fair market value. It authorizes the sale of approximately 0.63 acres and associated buildings in the Town of Ashland and the sale of approximately 40 acres of undeveloped land in the Town of Solon. This resolve also authorizes the sale of one lot approximately 1/4 acre in size in Little Squaw Township. This conveyance resolves a long-standing boundary line matter involving the abutting landowner. Revenues generated by these sales will be used to purchase land containing more significant natural resources and public use values elsewhere in Aroostook County, Somerset County and Piscataquis County.

LD 1852

An Act to Reorganize and Clarify the Laws Relating to the Establishment, Powers and Duties of the Bureau of Parks and Lands

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KILKELLY BUNKER	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1852 proposes clarifying the establishment, powers and duties of the new Bureau of Parks and Lands without altering the essential missions, powers and purposes of the 2 former bureaus. The bill does not propose any new rule-making authority to the bureau. This bill proposes repealing certain provisions of law and consolidating