MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
AND
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

MAY 1998

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Maine State Legislature

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ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 1998

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. 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 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:

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

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9,1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

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

It makes revisions to the provisions of the Forest Resource Assessment Program. It directs the Bureau of Forestry to establish a process to assess forest sustainability including the development of standards in 7 areas and a monitoring system. It provides for annual collection of inventory data and for an inventory cycle of not more than 5 years. It provides for the use of remote sensing technology and modeling to assess timber supply. It repeals the current provisions for reports and recommendations from the Forest Resources Assessment Program. It requires the Director of the Bureau of Forestry to prepare and publish an annual report summarizing clearcutting activities and a biennial report on the State's forests.

It allows alternate forms for reporting harvesting information. It requires a landowner to state the purpose of a clear-cut on the landowner harvest report. It requires a person filing a notification of intent to harvest to complete and submit the harvest report whether or not timber was harvested during the year. It changes from semiannually to annually the required report on stumpage prices published by the Bureau of Forestry.

Note: Additional funding for the Bureau of Forestry was included in the supplemental budget upon recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. (See Public Law 1997, chapter 643) Section S-5 appropriates $405,886 to the Department of Conservation for additional positions and resources for enforcement of forest practices laws and establishing an annual forest inventory program.

LD 2287	**An Act to Implement the Recommendations of a Minority of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Regarding Enhancing Forest Resource Assessment**	**DIED IN CONCURRENCE**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
	OTP	

LD 2287 was a minority of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. It proposed an annual collection of inventory data and for an inventory cycle of not more than 5 years. It proposed provisions for the use of remote sensing technology and modeling to assess timber supply. It proposed requiring the Bureau of Forestry to collect additional information and submit additional reports. It proposed amending provisions for landowner reports. For the Majority Report, see the bill summary for LD 2286.

Note: Additional funding for the Bureau of Forestry was included in the supplemental budget upon recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. (See Public Law 1997, chapter 643) Section S-5 appropriates $405,886 to the Department of Conservation for additional positions and resources for enforcement of forest practices laws and establishing an annual forest inventory program.