

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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

JULY 2000

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
July 2000

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. 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 and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the 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
- NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY*..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
- 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 To Pass 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 August 11, 2000.

David E. Boulter, Director
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Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources

LD 21

An Act Relating to MTBE

PUBLIC 709

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TRIPP	OTP-AM MAJ	H-1067
LIBBY	OTP-AM MIN	

LD 21 proposed to prohibit the sale of gasoline or fuel products that are treated with MTBE.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1067), the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources, proposed to replace the bill and change the title to reflect the content of the amendment. This amendment proposed:

1. to establish certain labeling requirements for motor fuel dispensers that dispense automobile gasoline containing MTBE;
2. to require the Department of Environmental Protection to monitor and report on the levels of MTBE being brought into the State;
3. to direct the department to undertake all reasonable efforts to promote and be an active participant in regional efforts by state regulatory agencies in the Northeast to develop alternatives to the use of MTBE as a gasoline additive;
4. to establish as a goal for the department in its work in regional forums the elimination of MTBE in gasoline sold in Maine by January 1, 2003 in a manner that adequately accounts for market constraints related to supply and pricing and, based on thorough analysis and evaluation of alternatives to the use of MTBE, ensures the lowest possible total environmental impact;
5. to require the department to make annual reports to the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources on progress made in regional efforts to remove MTBE from gasoline; and
6. to authorize the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources to report out legislation on MTBE in gasoline.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-1068), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources, proposed to replace the bill. This amendment proposed:

1. to establish a maximum contaminant level of MTBE in drinking water of 25 parts per billion;
2. to establish certain labeling requirements for motor fuel dispensers that dispense automobile gasoline containing MTBE;
3. to require the Department of Environmental Protection to monitor and report on the levels of MTBE being brought into the State;

4. to direct the department to undertake all reasonable efforts to promote and be an active participant in regional efforts by state regulatory agencies in the Northeast to develop alternatives to the use of MTBE as a gasoline additive;
5. to establish a prohibition on the use of MTBE in gasoline in the State after January 1, 2003 but to allow the department to suspend or delay this date if the commissioner finds that the prohibition will result in market constraints related to supply and pricing or will result in alternatives to MTBE that will cause greater environmental impact than the use of MTBE;
6. to require the department to make annual reports to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters on MTBE; and
7. to authorize the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters to report out legislation on MTBE in gasoline.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 709 establishes certain labeling requirements for motor fuel dispensers that dispense automobile gasoline containing MTBE; requires the Department of Environmental Protection to monitor and report on the levels of MTBE being brought into the State; directs the department to undertake all reasonable efforts to promote and be an active participant in regional efforts by state regulatory agencies in the Northeast to develop alternatives to the use of MTBE as a gasoline additive; establishes as a goal for the department in its work in regional forums the elimination of MTBE in gasoline sold in Maine by January 1, 2003 in a manner that adequately accounts for market constraints related to supply and pricing and, based on thorough analysis and evaluation of alternatives to the use of MTBE, ensures the lowest possible total environmental impact; requires the department to make annual reports to the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources on progress made in regional efforts to remove MTBE from gasoline; and authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources to report out to any session of any legislature legislation on MTBE in gasoline.

LD 1080

An Act to Direct State Capital Investments to Locally Designated Growth Areas

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
LONGLEY
COWGER

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1080 proposed to define growth-related capital investment and to require that growth-related capital investments by the State be made only in locally designated growth areas as identified in local comprehensive plans or, if there is no comprehensive plan, to areas with public sewers capable of handling the development. Exceptions could be made for state investments required to remedy threats to public health and safety; to mitigate nonpoint sources of pollution; to purchase lands for parks, open space or conservation; to assist natural resource-based industries and other activities that are typically located away from other development; to expand highways that meet national, state or regionwide needs; and for tourist and cultural facilities that rely on specific historic, natural or cultural resources.