

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

JULY 1999

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees
August 1999

We are pleased to provide this summary of all 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:

CARRIED OVER.....Bill carried over to Second Regular Session
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
ENACTMENT FAILED..... Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999.

LD 855

An Act to Improve the Management of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)
MARTIN

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 855 proposes requiring the principal administrative office of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway to be located at Churchill Dam.

LD 863

An Act to Amend the Pulling Event Laws

**PUBLIC 73
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)
CHICK
CASSIDY

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-110

LD 863 proposed several changes to the laws governing pulling events. It proposed empowering humane agents to work with pulling event superintendents to enforce laws. The bill also proposed changing the composition of the Pull Events Commission. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-110) proposed replacing the original bill and adding an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill. It proposed requiring the Pull Events Commission to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by January 1, 2000. In addition, it proposed several clarifications and revisions to the laws governing pulling events. It proposed changes in the composition and responsibilities of the Pull Events Commission. It also proposed to remove the provision in the bill that authorized the commissioner to appoint all members of the commission.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 73 requires the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, Pull Events Commission to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by January 1, 2000. It clarifies that only horses and ponies must wear shoes, that a rope may be allowed on oxen in children's pull classes in accordance with rules and which provisions apply to distance pulls. It allows pulling superintendents to approve use of a goad in excess of four feet in length. It clarifies that pull superintendents or assistant pull superintendents may not officiate over classes in which they are competing. It specifies that the Pull Events Commission must send a copy of a report received regarding violations or other conduct to the person whose conduct is being reported. It adds two members appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to the Pull Events Commission. It requires the Pull Events Commission to meet a minimum of twice annually. It requires the commission to coordinate, develop and conduct training seminars for pulling superintendents.

Chapter 73 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 16, 1999.