

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

Staff:
Jill Ippoliti, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670

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Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

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.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KIEFFER	OTP MAJ	H-326 MARTIN
CARR	ONTP MIN	

LD 1188 proposed codifying the current policy of the Department of Conservation that forest rangers may, under life-threatening emergency conditions, assist law enforcement officers and that they are entitled to the same immunity and benefits as rangers are when they are performing their regular forest ranger duties. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Conversation.

House Amendment "A" (H-326) proposed requiring the Commissioner of Conservation to sell all bullet-proof vests, firearms, and related equipment, if any, purchased by the Department of Conservation for the use of certain Bureau of Forestry employees. The amendment also proposed that funds generated by the sale be deposited in the General Fund. This amendment also proposed requiring the commissioner to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs concerning the specific amount of revenue generated by the sale. This amendment also proposed prohibiting the Commissioner of Conservation from purchasing bullet-proof vests, firearms and related materiel without explicit legislative authorization.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 352 codifies the current policy of the Department of Conservation that forest rangers may, under the life-threatening emergency conditions, assist law enforcement officers and that they are entitled to the same immunity and benefits as rangers are in performing their regular forest ranger duties.

It requires the Commissioner of Conservation to sell all bullet-proof vests, firearms, and related equipment purchased by the Department of Conservation for the use of certain Bureau of Forestry employees. Funds generated by the sale will be deposited in the General Fund. It requires the commissioner to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs concerning the specific amount of revenue generated by the sale. It specifically prohibits the Commissioner of Conservation from purchasing bullet-proof vests, firearms and related materiel without explicit legislative authorization.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LONGLEY	ONTP	

LD 1193 proposed requiring that 10% of the funds expended by the Land for Maine's Future Board to acquire natural lands be used to acquire lands of local or regional significance.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOOLEY	OTP-AM	H-230 PIEH
KIEFFER		