

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 1326**An Act to Clarify the Authority of the Maine Milk Commission****PUBLIC 56
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KILKELLY GOOLEY	OTP-AM	S-32

LD 1326 proposed clarifying the Legislature's intent that all Maine milk producers receive the minimum price established by the Maine Milk Commission. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-32) proposed alternative language to clarify that dealers must pay producers the minimum producer prices established by the Maine Milk Commission for milk sold in Maine.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 56 clarifies that the Maine Milk Commission's authority to set minimum prices paid by dealers to producers for milk sold in Maine applies to dealers subject to federal milk pricing regulation as well as those subject to state pricing regulation.

Chapter 56 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 7, 1999.

LD 1335**An Act to Simplify the Collection of Fees for the Maine Dairy Promotion Board and Maine Dairy Nutrition Council****PUBLIC 161
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KILKELLY GREEN	OTP-AM	S-104

LD 1335 proposed requiring milk dealers to forward the funds directly to the Maine Dairy Promotion Board and the Maine Dairy Nutrition Council. Under federal law, dairy farmers are assessed a fee of 15¢ per hundredweight, 10¢ of which dealers have sent to the Maine Milk Pool. Those funds are then forwarded to the Maine Dairy Promotion Board and the Maine Dairy Nutrition Council to fund milk promotion and nutrition programs. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-104) proposed technical corrections to the bill, removing sections that proposed changes to existing definitions. It specified an effective date of June 1, 1999 and added a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 161 requires milk dealers to forward the per hundredweight fee for milk promotion and nutrition programs directly to the Maine Dairy Promotion Board and the Maine Dairy Nutrition Council instead of channeling the funds through the Maine Milk Pool.

Chapter 161 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 1, 1999.