

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
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

LD 1457

An Act to Decrease Restrictions on the Sale of Land

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CLOUGH KONTOS | ONTP | |

LD 1457 proposed to permit a landowner to divide a tract or parcel of land into 3 lots within any 5-year period without creating a subdivision as that term is defined in the planning and land use regulation laws if the landowner has owned the parcel to be divided for a period of at least 5 years before the first dividing occurs and both dividings create, at the time of each dividing, a lot no larger than 140% of the minimum size lot on which a structure may be built pursuant to the applicable municipal ordinance. The bill proposed to add language making the Act retroactive to a date 5 years prior to the effective date of the Act.

LD 1506

Resolve, to Require the Department of Environmental Protection to Reimburse Homeowners for Malfunctioning On-site Peat Sewage Disposal Systems

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| O'GARA DUPLESSIE | ONTP | |

LD 1506 proposed to require the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Human Services to identify all on-site peat sewage disposal systems installed since October 1, 1988 that have failed or are currently malfunctioning due to improper installation. The resolve further proposed to direct the Department of Environmental Protection to reimburse the homeowners from within its existing budgeted resources for all costs associated with fixing or replacing the malfunctioning system.

The resolve also proposed to direct the Department of Human Services, Division of Health Engineering to provisionally adopt major substantive rules by January 31, 2000 that upgrade those systems from experimental to general use status and that establish clear guidelines for installing such systems.

LD 1519

An Act to Encourage Environmental Management Systems

PUBLIC 562

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DAIGLE | OTP-AM | H-801 |

LD 1519 proposed to establish a state policy to encourage facilities to develop and implement environmental management systems that conform to international standards. The bill proposed to require the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to develop and implement an incentives program to encourage facilities to implement environmental management systems by offering regulatory relief to facilities that implement certified environmental management systems.