

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 1565 **Resolve, Directing the Maine Forest Service to Examine the Excessive Cutting of Mature Maple Trees** **ONTP**

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

LD 1565 proposed requiring the Department of Conservation, Maine Forest Service to examine the issue of the excessive cutting of mature maple trees and report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry no later than December 1, 1999.

LD 1567 **An Act to Help Farmers to Protect the Quality of Milk** **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WESTON DAVIS P		

LD 1567 proposed making the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources the arbitrator in disputes over milk test results and directing the department to establish by rule the tests appropriate for various aspects of milk quality testing.

LD 1642 **An Act Regarding Equine Massage Therapy** **ONTP**

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

LD 1642 proposed allowing a person who is a certified or licensed equine massage therapist to perform massage therapy on horses. It proposed directing the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to adopt rules regulating the education necessary to practice as an equine massage therapist.

LD 1654 **An Act to Improve the Efficiency of Environmental Regulation in the Unorganized and Deorganized Areas of the State** **PUBLIC 333**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KILKELLY COWGER	OTP-AM	H-591 PIEH S-261

LD 1654 proposed eliminating redundancy in the permitting process between the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission and the Department of Environmental Protection.

Under provisions of this bill, large development projects that require extensive technical review would be regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection regardless of their location in the State. Within the unorganized and deorganized areas of the State, routine permitting decisions and all zoning considerations would be made by the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission. All activities governed by the natural resources protection laws, including the alteration of wetlands, would be regulated exclusively by the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission within the unorganized and deorganized areas of the State.