

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
NATURAL RESOURCES**

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

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Sen. James D. Libby

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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 1774

An Act to Amend Environmental Penalties to Prohibit Fines on First-time Violators

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KASPRZAK DAVIS P	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1774 proposed to prohibit the levying of fines on first-time violators of environmental laws as long as the violation was not willful and the violator agrees to work with the Department of Environmental Protection to correct any damage that may have occurred.

LD 1794

An Act to Encourage the Implementation of Pollution Prevention in Maine

ONTP

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

LD 1794 proposed to extend Maine's toxics use reduction laws by requiring facilities to establish their own facility-specific goals for toxics release, toxic use and hazardous waste reductions. The bill proposed to establish a recognition program for high performers and to require the Department of Environmental Protection to provide assistance to nonperformers and to require plan-summary submissions from nonperformers. The bill proposed to clarify penalties for failure to submit required reporting documents. The bill also proposed to incorporate pollution prevention into state policy and to require the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to lead the development of an environmental management system for state facilities.

This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Environmental Protection.

LD 1808

An Act to Amend the Definition of Lender Under the Uncontrolled Hazardous Substance Sites Law

PUBLIC 289

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CIANCHETTE	OTP-AM	H-423

LD 1808 proposed to expand the definition of lender contained in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38 by incorporating a federal definition that would extend the potential applicability of the exemption from liability for lenders contained in Title 38, section 342-B, subsection 2 to entities purchasing mortgage notes on the secondary market.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-423) proposed to make a technical correction to a statutory cross-reference.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 289 expands the definition of lender contained in Title 38, section 1362, subsection 1-B by incorporating a federal definition that would extend the applicability of the exemption from liability for lenders contained in Title 38, section 342-B, subsection 2 to entities purchasing mortgage notes on the secondary market.