

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 1844

An Act to Protect Taxpayers Against Open-ended Maintenance Expenditures on Property Transferred to the State

ONTP

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

LD 1844 proposed requiring a person or organization donating land to the State to provide for the future maintenance and upkeep of the land. If the provisions for the future maintenance and upkeep of the land were not adequate at the time of the proposed transfer, the bill proposed that the State or its designated agency be prohibited from accepting the donation.

LD 1854

An Act to Require Posting of Regulations on Public Lands

ONTP

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

LD 1854 proposed requiring the Bureau of Parks and Lands to post signs to detail any restrictions on use or access, such as "no hunting" or "no fishing," that the bureau has placed on a park, historic site, public reserved land or nonreserved public land.

LD 1868

An Act to Preserve Public Access and Job Opportunities in the Maine Woods

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COWGER	ONTP MAJ	
PINGREE	OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1868 proposed creating the Maine Woods Act and establishing the Maine Woods Board as a public instrumentality of the State. The board's central duties would have been to support sustainable forestry and provide public access and recreational opportunities through the acquisition and maintenance of forest lands. The bill proposed independent bonding authority to support the Maine Woods Fund, as established in this bill.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-554) was the minority report. It would have required the deed for all lands acquired under the Maine Woods Act to contain a clause specifying that the land be used for timber harvesting and management. It also proposed striking out the provisions in the bill regarding eminent domain. The minority report was not accepted.

LD 1888

An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Development and Centralized Listing of Municipal Ordinances that Apply to Forestry Practices

PUBLIC 263

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KILKELLY	OTP-AM MAJ	H-527 PIEH
COWGER	ONTP MIN	S-211