

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES  
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

LD: 1299 AN ACT RELATING TO SEPTIC SYSTEM PERMITS

ND of 745

COOPER  
USHER  
HOLLOWAY  
JACQUES

HOUSE Enacted  
SENATE Enacted  
GOV SIGNED

PUBLIC  
CH # 135

SUMMARY:

Both the original bill (LD 745) and this new draft protected the privileges of a septic system permit holder. Under current law, if a well is drilled within a certain distance of a licensed but not yet installed septic system, the license (permit) for the septic system is invalidated. The original bill proposed a permit system for wells which would have incorporated parallel setback requirements from licensed septic systems. Strong opposition to a new permit system persuaded the Committee to redraft the bill to protect the validity of septic system permits without the need for well permits. Under the new provisions a septic system permit cannot be invalidated under the circumstances described in this paragraph.

LD: 1359 AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOLID  
EMERGENCY WASTE ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITIES IN THE  
STATE OF MAINE

USHER  
PRAY

OTP-AM HOUSE Emerg. Enacted  
SENATE Emerg. Enacted  
GOV EMER SIGNED

PUBLIC  
CH # 337

S-207 CA H S

SUMMARY:

The bill provided clear authority for municipalities to enter into contracts for the disposal of municipal solid waste. The need for the bill stemmed from recent problems in the bond markets connected to defaults on municipal bonds. In at least one highly publicized case (the Washington Public Power Supply System default), courts have allowed municipalities to default on substantial bonds because of imperfections in municipal charters regarding contracting authority. In Maine, a major solid waste to energy facility has been proposed in the greater Portland area that will be financed with bonds. To assure the bond markets of the clear contracting authority, the bill spells out in great detail, the nature and scope of such contracts and provides that the authorization takes precedence over any potentially conflicting municipal charter provisions.