

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

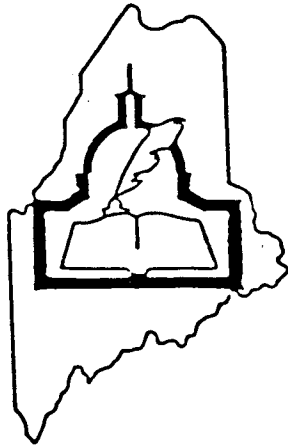
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
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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.

CA-S-193: The Committee Amendment adds a fiscal note for the increase in dedicated revenue from the sale.

LD:	1546	RESOLVE, AUTHORIZING THE EXCHANGE OR SALE OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RESERVED LANDS	MARTIN J MICHAUD USHER PERKINS
MAJ	OTP-AM	HOUSE	Finally Passed MAJ
MIN	OTP-AM	SENATE	Finally Passed MAJ
		GOV	SIGNED
	H-334	CA	MAJ REP
	H-335	CB	MIN REP
			H S
			RESOLVE CH # 40

SUMMARY:

This bill authorizes the State, acting through the Bureau of Public Lands, to sell or swap certain Public Lots in order to continue to consolidate and expand the Public Reserved Lands System. There was discussion at worksession on the appropriateness of the exchange of lands in Chain of Ponds Township and the sale of public lots in Carrabassett Valley. The minority report (CB-H-335) would have deleted the Chain of Ponds Township transaction from the bill.

CA-H-334: (Majority Report) The Committee Amendment authorizes the sale of an additional camp lot in Chain of Ponds Township, makes several technical amendments in the bill and adds a fiscal note to reflect the increase in dedicated revenue from the sales authorized by the bill.

LD: **1550** AN ACT CONCERNING THE FOREST RESOURCES OF MAINE (REPORTED PURSUANT TO RESOLVES CHAPT 85 OF 1983)

OTP-AM		HOUSE	Enacted			PUBLIC
		SENATE	Enacted			CH # 485
		GOV	SIGNED			
H-318	CA			H	S	
H-329		JACQUES				
H-340	HA	CONNOLLY				
S-231		USHER		H	S	
S-235	SA	USHER				
S-240	SB	USHER		H	S	
S-329		PEARSON		H	S	

SUMMARY:

This bill was the product of the Select Committee on Forest Practices. The bill established the "Maine Forests for the Future" program in the Department of Conservation. The program was designed to assess and project the condition of the forest resource and the

expected demands on it. Through an interdepartmental planning and policy process, the program will generate recommendations for state and private action to improve the management and productivity of Maine's forests. The Director of the Maine Forest Service is charged with collecting and analyzing information on harvest and management practices. The bill also proposed a rigorous planning and management process for the Bureau of Public Lands and established a reporting system to collect information on violations of various local land use laws. Finally, the bill also proposed clarifications in the statutes dealing with appropriations from the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund.

The Committee amended the bill (CA H-318) to narrow the focus of the reporting requirements of the local land use law provisions to cover only violations of shoreland zoning laws. The Committee also replaced the sections dealing with the planning requirements for the Bureau of Public Lands with more general mandate to practice "exemplary land management". The provisions dealing with allocations from the Public Lands Fund were removed as they had been included in another bill (see LD 1627). With these amendments, the bill received a unanimous report.

The bill was initially amended on the floor (H-329) to reinsert key provisions of the original Bureau of Public Lands planning requirements, specifically, the requirement that management plans be adopted for each unit of the public lands system and that these plans be subject to the Administrative Procedures Act. Subsequent amendment (S-231) removed the formal procedural requirements for adoption but retained the requirement for public notice, review and comment prior to the adoption or revision of any unit management plan.

A series of floor amendments dealt with the issue of conflict of interest for members of the "Citizens Forestry Advisory Council" which advises the Governor and the Legislature on the progress of the Forests for the Future program. The amendment ultimately adopted (S-240) provides that no more than 2 Council members can be employees of an organization with financial or other interest in the forest resource.

A final amendment (S-329) reduced the appropriation for the program from \$250,000 as the Committee recommended to \$200,000.