

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1987

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD
1379

AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION LAWS.

PL 1987
c. 308

Sponsor: USHER, Michaud, Ludwig, Holloway
Committee Report: OTP-A
Amendments Adopted:
S-98 COMMITTEE
H-220 MICHAUD

SUMMARY: The bill clarified the authority of the Commissioner of Conservation and that of several of the bureau directors within the Department of Conservation. The commissioner's primary authority over the hiring of staff was made clear. The ability of the department to accept gifts of land or money was affirmed. The commissioner's authority to advance the goals of the department through agreements with private entities as well as with governmental agencies was made clear. The Bureau of Parks and Recreation was authorized to charge for the actual costs of constructing boat launching ramps. Finally, the Maine Forest Service was authorized to sell surplus property at the State Nursery.

The committee amendment includes two provisions: First, language was added to maintain the original role of the Land Use Regulation Commission in the dismissal of its executive director as well as in the hiring. The director is appointed by the commissioner with the consent of a majority of the Commission. The amendment conditioned the commissioner's authority to dismiss the director on the consent of a majority of the Commission. A floor amendment in the House subsequently clarified this language with the same intent. The objective in the final version of this provision was to establish the Commissioner as the person who initiates a hiring or dismissal action. The action must then be approved by the Commission but is never initiated by it.

The second portion of the committee amendment required the director of the Maine Forest Service to notify the Legislature of his or her intent to sell surplus property at the State Nursery at least 60 days prior to offering the property for sale.