

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 AN ACT TO AMEND THE UNDERGROUND OIL STORAGE
1507 FACILITIES AND GROUND WATER PROTECTION LAW.

ND LD 1763

Sponsor: WILLEY, Sewall, Usher, Hepburn
Committee Report: OTP-ND-NT LD 1763

SUMMARY: See New Draft LD 1763.

LD AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE STATE'S CAPABILITY TO
1528 RESPOND TO A HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT.

ONTP

Sponsor: BICKFORD, Gwadosky, Farnum, Gill
Committee Report: ONTP

SUMMARY: The bill provided a General Fund appropriation to support a training program in hazardous materials handling and to improve the State's emergency response capabilities for accidents involving hazardous materials. The bill was originally referred to the Appropriations Committee which rereferred the bill to the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. The bill came late in the Session and lacked a funding mechanism.

LD AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EXISTING
1580 STATE LAND USE LAWS AND TO PROMOTE CONSISTENCY
AMONG THEM.

ONTP

Sponsor: COLLINS, Anderson, Hanley
Committee Report: ONTP

SUMMARY: This bill was proposed by the Governor for the purpose of consolidating four existing land use laws, the Great Ponds Program, Alteration of Coastal Wetlands, Alteration of Rivers, Streams and Brooks, and the Freshwater Wetlands Act. The intent of consolidating these statutes was to provide a single source of regulation and a single set of standards for state permitting in natural resource areas important to the state. The first four sections of the bill repeal the current statutes; section five enacts 38 MRSA c. 22, Natural Resource Protection. Achieving consistency among statutes resulted in some changes in definitions and standards from current statutes. Other provisions deal with cumulative impacts, delegation to municipalities of permit-granting authority, the elimination of exemptions for agricultural and forestry activities in freshwater wetlands, and the adoption of performance and use standards by the BEP. The State Planning Office proposed an amendment to the bill that added a findings and purpose section and some technical corrections.

The committee withheld support from this bill for three reasons; its late introduction, the need to deal first with other legislation, and the presence of several other land use related bills. These bills included L.D.s: 1284, 1442, 1617, 1647, and 1764 (a new draft of 1442). As a result of these factors, a study of land use and economic development issues will be conducted during the interim between the first and second regular sessions of the 113th Legislature.

LD 1596 AN ACT TO CHANGE THE WATER QUALITY CLASSIFICATION OF THE CARRABASSETT RIVER AND CERTAIN OF ITS TRIBUTARIES. PL 1987 c. 189

Sponsor: DEXTER, Holloway
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 961

SUMMARY: The original bill upgraded the classification of a portion of the Carrabassett River mainsteam from class B to class A. In reviewing the actual water quality of the mainsteam and its tributaries, the committee unanimously decided to amend the bill to also upgrade the classification of various tributaries to class A.

LD 1597 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE WELL WATER INFORMATION LAW. PL 1987 c. 509

Sponsor: MITCHELL, Coles, Mills
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 265
Amendments Adopted:
S-254 PEARSON

SUMMARY: The original bill required all well drilling contractors to report on the characteristics of all wells that they construct. The committee unanimously adopted a new draft which made several technical corrections, lengthened the reporting period from 45 to 180 days and made provisions to limit the public availability of the data. The new draft exempts the data from the Freedom of Access Act in order to allow the Maine Geological Survey and other state agencies who subsequently acquire the data to limit public access to the individual well records.