

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**



**BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

JULY 1989

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Sen. Margaret G. Ludwig

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1989

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 for each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are abbreviated as follows:

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

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

LD 713 **An Act to Improve the Air Quality by Limiting the Sulfur
Content of Fuel**

INDEF PP

SPONSOR(S)

OLIVER
KANY
COLES
PINEAU

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-112
H-141 MICHAUD

SUMMARY

The original bill proposed to limit sulfur dioxide omissions by regulating the emission rate of facilities. The committee amendment (H-112) prohibits the use of any oil with a sulfur content of greater than 2.0% by November 1, 1991. The requirement for the sulfur content of coal also is reduced to .96 pounds of sulfur per million British Thermal Units. Sources with flue gas desulfurization systems may burn fuel with a higher sulfur content provided their emission rate does not exceed 1.92 pounds of sulfur per million British Thermal Units.

An exemption for the use of higher sulfur fuel for electrical generating facilities that operate less than 20% of their capacity factor over a 4-year period and are in compliance with ambient air quality standards is included in the amendment. A house amendment (H-141) clarified that the exemption does not affect the compliance status of a facility.

This bill was indefinitely postponed in the House and Senate but its provisions were included in the Part II Budget, PL 1989, c. 501.

**LD 718 An Act to Regain Full Use of Maine's Waters Through the
Establishment of Color Standards**

VETO SUSTAINED

SPONSOR(S)

NUTTING
BOUTILIER
MICHAUD
BERUBE

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM MAJ
ONTP MIN

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-102 MAJ REP

SUMMARY

This bill, as amended by the majority report (H-102), would have established a water quality standard limiting the increase in color caused by any single discharge to a maximum of 20 color units and cumulative increase in any water body to 40 color units. An implementation schedule would have been established to permit extensions as determined by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection. The bill would also have established a reporting date for the Commissioner's current study of the color issue. The Governor vetoed the bill and the veto was sustained (see also LD 1713).