

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE

JULY 1989

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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.

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MITCHELL	OTP-AM	H-255
NUTTING		
TARDY		
PINES		

SUMMARY

The original bill repealed existing statutes that provide a process for causing a dangerous dog to be muzzled, otherwise restrained or put to sleep and replaced them with more extensive provisions.

The committee amendment replaces the original bill and amends existing statute to allow a person witnessing an unprovoked assault by a dog to bring a complaint to law enforcement officials. If investigation by a law enforcement officer and court action concurred, this amendment would allow the appropriate restraint of a dangerous dog in cases where the person assaulted may be reluctant to file a complaint.

LD 869 **An Act to Prevent Improper Delegation of Eminent Domain Powers and Unjust Taking of Property** **ONTP**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
PARADIS P	ONTP	
STEVENS P		
HOLLOWAY		
BEGLEY		

SUMMARY

The bill would have repealed the Farmland Adjacency Law. See LD 949 for committee action on this issue.

LD 878 **An Act to Strengthen the Penalties against Those Who Intentionally Mislabel Foods as Natural or Organic** **INDEF PP**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
NUTTING	OTP-AM	H-254
PERKINS		S-159 TWITCHELL
CARROLL D		
ANDREWS		

SUMMARY

The committee amendment retained the purpose of the original bill giving the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources authority to promulgate rules governing the labeling of foods as "organic." Statutory provisions that made violations of organic labeling laws a Class E crime were repealed. Bill language that made violations of organic labeling laws a civil violation was amended to limit the maximum penalty to \$1,000.

The Senate amendment corrected provisions of the bill that inadvertently gave the department the ability to determine and impose fines for a civil violation.

The bill did not receive \$2,000 for rulemaking and was indefinitely postponed.