

# 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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\* Denotes Chair

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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.

SPONSOR(S)SIMPSON  
MICHAUDCOMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-566

SUMMARY

The original bill changes the definition of "river" in the site location of development laws and the mandatory zoning and subdivision control laws to increase the jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Protection along certain water bodies. Currently, certain types of projects located within 250 feet of a river are subject to Department of Environmental Protection review. The size criterion of the watershed was dropped in favor of a map reference to ease the resolution of questions about which water bodies qualify as rivers.

The committee amendment (H-566) drops any changes to the Site Location Law and instead requires an applicant for local subdivision approval to identify all rivers, streams and brooks on any maps submitted as part of the application.

**LD 1584** An Act to Protect the People of Maine from Exposure to  
Radioactive Waste

PUBLIC 461

SPONSOR(S)HOLT  
TITCOMB  
SIMPSON  
GOULD R ACOMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-605

SUMMARY

The amended version of this bill prohibits the storage or disposal of low-level radioactive waste generated from the production of nuclear power, deregulated or otherwise, at any solid, liquid or hazardous waste facilities except those licensed to handle low-level radioactive waste.

Section 1 and 3 expand the definition of low-level radioactive waste to include wastes generated by nuclear power plants that, in the future, may be classified by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as "below regulatory concern". This is intended to cover wastes that are radioactive as a result of the process of nuclear power generation rather than wastes that are radioactive because of natural processes. For example, wastes from landscaping the grounds of the Maine Yankee nuclear power plant, that may have background levels of radioactive contamination would not be included in this category.

Section 2 requires that, in Maine, this low-level radioactive waste is to be disposed of at a low-level radioactive waste storage or disposal facility. It also stipulates that by regulating the waste, the state does not assume ownership or responsibility for that waste.