

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE

JUNE 1990

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**One Hundred and Fourteenth Legislature
Second Regular Session**

**Joint Standing Committee
Bill Summaries**

June 1990

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. 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 or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond, 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 2000 **An Act to Transfer Responsibility for the Agriculture in the Classroom Program from the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to the University of Maine System** **LV/WD**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
LISNIK	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

This bill would have transferred responsibility for the "Agriculture in the Classroom" program from the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to the University of Maine System.

LD 2022 **Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Harness Racing Industry** **INDEF PP**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TITCOMB GREENLAW SIMPSON	OTP-AM •	S-556

SUMMARY

The bill would have established the Commission to Study the Harness Racing Industry. The amendment made several changes to the study, expanding its scope and membership. The bill was indefinitely postponed in favor of LD 2412.

LD 2037 **An Act to Promote the Marketing of Fresh Produce Grown within the State** **INDEF PP**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TARDY	OTP-AM	

SUMMARY

The bill would have required food marketed in this State as "natural" or "organic" to be certified by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. The committee amendment replaced the bill with provisions that would have allowed seasonal businesses selling fresh agricultural products grown on-site to place road-side signs of 20 square feet or less.

LD 2042 **An Act to Allow Inclusion of Nonagricultural Products in the Quality Program** **PUBLIC 670**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PERKINS TWITCHELL NUTTING PARENT	OTP-AM	S-502

SUMMARY

The bill, as amended by the committee amendment, allows standards for the use of the quality trademark by natural resource-based nonagricultural products to be adopted by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. The commissioner of an appropriate department, such as Conservation, Marine Resources, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or Economic and Community Development, can request that the trademark or design be made available to the packers and shippers of particular natural resource products and commodities. Grades and standards will be established jointly by the appropriate department and the

Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. Adherence to these grades and standards is a condition to the use of the trademark.

LD 2052 An Act to Clarify the Relationship Between the Maine Potato Board, the Maine Potato Quality Control Board and the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PINES	LV/WD	
BELL		
WHITCOMB		
COLLINS		

SUMMARY

This bill would have directed the Maine Potato Quality Control Board and the Maine Potato Board to jointly prepare and submit a plan of work and budget to the Commissioner of Agriculture for approval as a condition for funds being made available to the Potato Quality Board.

LD 2107 An Act Prohibiting Membership in a Trade or Similar Association from Being a Condition for Licensing or Certifying a Producer's Food as Natural or Organic PUBLIC 663

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WHITCOMB	OTP-AM	H-780

SUMMARY

The bill, as amended by the committee amendment, provides that any Maine organization certifying food as organic can not require membership in the organization as a condition of certification.

LD 2121 An Act to Regulate Food Salvage Operations PUBLIC 664

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PINES	OTP-AM	H-767
COLLINS		S-515 BUSTIN
BELL		
ALIBERTI		

SUMMARY

The bill, as amended by the committee amendment, provides for the regulation of food salvage operations by requiring food salvage establishments and food salvage brokers to be licensed in the same manner as other food establishments under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, chapter 551. The Senate amendment corrected technical errors in the committee amendment.