

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.

SPONSOR(S)MARSH
WHITCOMB
MCGOWAN**COMMITTEE REPORT**

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-911

SUMMARY

The bill, as amended by the committee amendment, would have established an agricultural land preservation program to purchase the development rights of farms voluntarily offered by the landowner for consideration. Under this program, a 9 member board would have protected farmland from development for nonfarming uses by paying the landowner for the value of the development rights in return for permanent restrictions against nonagricultural activities. Development easements would have prohibited residential construction, mining, removal of top soil, or placing buildings on more than 5% of the land. Legislation requesting a \$15 million dollar bond issue to finance purchases of development easements was rejected. Public Law 1989, chapter 876 (LD 1945) included \$1 million for the Land for Maine's Future Board to acquire farmland or development rights to farmland.

LD 2146 Resolve, to Establish Harness Racing Dates for 1990**LV/WD****SPONSOR(S)**

TARDY

COMMITTEE REPORT

LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**SUMMARY**

This resolve would have established racing dates for the harness racing industry for 1990 as they pertain to the extended pari-mutuel tracks.

LD 2147 Resolve, Regarding Harness Racing**LV/WD****SPONSOR(S)**MARTIN J
MACOMBER
TWITCHELL
LORD**COMMITTEE REPORT**

LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**SUMMARY**

This resolve would have set pari-mutuel harness racing dates for Lewiston Raceway and Scarborough Downs.

LD 2181 An Act to Amend the Maine Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act of 1973 (Reported Pursuant to a Study Authorized by the Legislative Council)**PUBLIC 703
EMERGENCY****SPONSOR(S)****COMMITTEE REPORT**

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-828

SUMMARY

The bill was the result of a study on the Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act of 1973 that was authorized by the Legislative Council. The bill, as amended by the committee amendment, clarifies that a public member of the Maine Agricultural Bargaining Board may not have conflicting interests while serving on the board and enacts criteria for arbitrators to use in making their decisions on unresolved matters.