

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
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
OTP-ND
OTP-ND-NT
OTP-A
ONTP
LVWD
INDEF PP

Ought to Pass
Ought to Pass in New Draft
Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
Ought to Pass as Amended
Ought Not to Pass
Leave to Withdraw
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 2394 An Act to Regulate and Monitor the Discharge of Toxic
Substances into the State's Waters**

PUBLIC 856

SPONSOR(S)

JACQUES
MICHAUD
MCGOWAN
KANY

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-1055

SUMMARY

This bill, as amended by the committee (H-1055), provides a procedure to limit the amounts of toxic substances allowed in the State's surface waters, removes certain legal uncertainties that have delayed the regulation of these toxic substances and implements a requirement in the Federal Water Pollution Control Act that the State must meet for the control of toxics. The bill requires the Board of Environmental Protection (BEP) to use the numeric water quality criteria of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) in regulating "priority" toxic pollutants unless the board chooses to substitute an alternative water quality criteria that is based on a "sound scientific rationale" and is "protective of the most sensitive designated use of the water body". Use of the USEPA criteria for dioxin is suspended until June 1, 1991, to provide time for the BEP to consider adoption of an alternative criterion for this pollutant. The amended bill also directs the BEP to establish a compliance schedule for dioxin control that is consistent with the compliance deadlines established by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. Finally, the amended bill extends the existing dioxin monitoring program for 5 years.

**LD 2397 An Act Concerning Private Wells Contaminated by Hazardous
Substances**

**PUBLIC 792
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)

LORD

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-943

SUMMARY

This bill allows families whose wells have been contaminated by hazardous substances, and who need public water for potable water, to receive subsidies to keep their rates comparable with water rates throughout the State.

The Committee amendment (H-943) allows the Department of Environmental Protection to pay the costs of a public water supply for up to 20 years if funds are available from dedicated revenue accounts or from applicable bond proceeds.

**LD 2404 An Act Concerning the Annual License Fee for Overboard
Discharges**

PUBLIC 807

SPONSOR(S)

FARREN
LIBBY
BRAWN
JACQUES

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-962
H-983 JACQUES

SUMMARY

This bill, as amended by committee (H-962), establishes a sliding scale for the annual license fee charged to small, residential overboard discharge license holders.

The House amendment (H-983) reflects the fiscal impact of the committee amendment.