

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
115TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**AUGUST 1991**

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
AUGUST 1991**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H - 584 or S - 222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

<b>PUBLIC XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<b>P&amp;S XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<b>RESOLVE XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<b>CON RES XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<b>CARRIED OVER</b>	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
<b>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</b>	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<b>ONTP</b>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<b>LVWD</b>	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
<b>INDEF PP</b>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<b>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</b>	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<b>VETO SUSTAINED</b>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<b>UNSIGNED</b>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<b>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</b>	<i>Action incomplete when 1st session ended</i>

These summaries were 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.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

**LD 156**

**An Act to Assist in the Cleanup of Contaminated Property**

**PUBLIC 81**

**SPONSOR(S)**

KETOVER  
MICHAUD  
JACQUES  
LORD

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

H-62

**SUMMARY**

The original bill would have required the Department of Environmental Protection to provide financial assistance to individuals or small businesses that are required under law to clean up a hazardous waste site, but who, if compelled to do so, would face financial ruin. The bill established a means test as a standard for determining "financially ruinous" costs, and directed the board to adopt rules implementing the bill by January 1, 1992.

The committee amendment (H-62) strikes the original bill and adds a provision to protect innocent landowners from liability on uncontrolled hazardous substance sites where hazardous substances came to be located solely through the conduct of the 3rd parties before the innocent landowners acquired the sites. The intent of this amendment is to offer the same innocent landowner defense as is available under CERCLA (the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980).

**LD 158**

**An Act to Prohibit the Burying of Low-level Radioactive Waste**

**ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**

WEBSTER  
HEPBURN  
HOGLUND  
SUMMERS

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have prohibited the burying of any low-level radioactive waste and made a violation of this provision a Class C crime.

**LD 161**

**An Act to Require Deposits on Large Oil Containers**

**ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**

HEESCHEN  
JACQUES  
WENTWORTH  
TITCOMB

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have instituted a deposit and refund system on large lubricating oil containers to ensure their return. This system was proposed as a means to limit littering of these containers.