

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:

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

SPONSOR(S)
GWADOSKY
GOODRIDGE
POULIN

COMMITTEE REPORT
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have created an Environmental Project Development Unit within the Department of Environmental Protection. The unit was to provide technical and administrative assistance to small businesses undertaking projects that require departmental review. The unit also was to identify the types of projects most commonly submitted to the Board of Environmental Protection and propose methods for standardizing those projects. The unit also was required to develop and propose to the board rules that allowed for permit by rule under the site location of development, coastal wetlands and great pond laws.

LD 622**An Act Relating to the Use of Material-separated, Refuse-
derived Fuel**

**PUBLIC 220
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)
MARTIN J
COLLINS
MCHENRY
COLES

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-214

SUMMARY

The bill proposed to permit the use of material-separated, refuse-derived fuel as an energy source for public and private users, for the purposes of reducing the amount of material sent to landfills and to assist municipalities in meeting the recycling goals outlined in state law.

Committee amendment "A" (H214) replaced the bill. The amendment creates a new category of refuse-derived fuel called "material-separated, refuse-derived fuel," or MSRDF, which is defined as a binder-enhanced, pelletized, solid fuel product made from the combustible fraction of a municipal solid waste stream that has been processed to remove the recyclable material before combustion. MSRDF may not contain more than 6% by weight of plastic, metal, glass or food waste and the production of MSRDF at any municipal solid waste processing facility may not exceed 40% of the municipal solid waste stream from which it was derived.

The amendment allows any combustion facility or fuel-burning equipment that is not otherwise considered a solid waste disposal facility, a resource recovery facility, a commercial waste facility or solid waste fuel-burning equipment to burn MSRDF as a supplemental or primary fuel without causing the facility or fuel-burning equipment to become subject to regulation under the solid waste disposal laws. Burning MSRDF in combustion units with a rated heat capacity of 500,000 British thermal units per hour or less is prohibited. Combustion units larger than 500,000 British thermal units per hour that are not subject to air emission licensing must demonstrate to the Department of Environmental Protection that burning MSRDF at the facility will not harm the ambient air quality. A facility may not burn MSRDF unless the fuel-burning equipment is registered with the Oil and Solid Fuel Board and, for units smaller than 10,000,000 British thermal units per hour, has an automatic stoker with a feed rate of at least 50 pounds per hour.

The amendment also requires any municipal solid waste processing facility that produces MSRDF to report to the Department of Environmental Protection annually. The report must indicate the total amount of municipal solid waste accepted by the facility, the amount of the municipal solid waste recycled, the amount of MSRDF produced and the disposition of any remaining waste.

LD 624 An Act to Establish a Harbor Management Fund and Deal with Abandoned Watercraft PUBLIC 427

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
COLES	OTP-AM	H-330
LOOK		H-372 TAMMARO
MARSH		H-505 JACQUES
VOSE		

SUMMARY

The original bill would have established the Harbor Management Fund under the Bureau of Public Lands to provide grants to municipalities for harbor management improvement activities. The fund would have been supported by a contribution of \$1 from each mooring fee collected by municipalities and paid voluntarily to the fund.

This bill also prohibits boat owners from abandoning their vessels in the coastal waters of the State. Beginning July 1, 1992 it makes the Commissioner of Conservation the responsible person for assuring that vessels that are abandoned are removed.

The committee amendment (H-330) differs from the original bill in that it creates a broader shore and harbor management fund to support activities along the shore as well as in harbors. The Shore and Harbor Management Fund is financed by excess revenues from the submerged lands program rather than by a statewide mooring fee.

The sections of this amendment relating to abandoned watercraft specify criteria for reporting requirements and for eligibility for removal, allow implementation of the program subject to available funding, allow removal by 3rd parties and increase the penalty for abandonment. Money is reallocated to a newly created Submerged Lands Fund and a fiscal note is added.

One House amendment (H-372) makes technical corrections to the bill and the other (H-505) better defines ownership of a vessel.

LD 631 An Act to Ease Municipal Solid Waste Costs LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PRAY	LV/WD	
GOULD R A		
HUSSEY		
BALDACCI		

SUMMARY

This bill would have required that any surplus in the administrative account of the Maine Solid Waste Management Fund be returned to the municipalities, based on need and an equitable sharing of revenues between State Government and local government.