

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.

LD 636 An Act Concerning Senior Citizens' Discount When Using State Parks ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
NORTON VOSE TUPPER O'GARA	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have required free admission to citizens of this State 65 years of age or older for day use of state parks. The bill also established a discount for these citizens when using overnight facilities at state parks.

LD 641 An Act to Exempt Housing Developments of 6 Units or Less from the Natural Resource Protection Laws in Certain Situations ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
RUHLIN DUFFY BOST TUPPER	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have exempted from the natural resource protection laws small housing developments of 6 units or less that affect those wetlands that are currently classified in the least sensitive category of wetlands by the Department of Environmental Protection.

LD 645 An Act to Exempt Tree Farms from the Forest Practices Laws LV/WD

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

SUMMARY

This bill would have exempted tree farms from the requirements of the forest practices laws.

LD 667 An Act to Require the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to Evaluate the Financial and Staff Resources Necessary to Assume Responsibility for Certain Provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act P & S 25

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MICHAUD MARTIN J LORD PRAY	OTP-AM	H-432

SUMMARY

The original bill would have required the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to apply to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the authority to administer the National Pollutant Elimination Discharge System under the federal Clean Water Act. Committee amendment "A" (H-432) replaces this

requirement with a directive to the commissioner to analyze the necessary financial and staff resources that would be required to successfully assume these responsibilities. The commissioner is directed to report to the Legislature by 1992 on the results of this analysis.

**LD 693 An Act to Amend the Law Pertaining to the State's
Contribution to Pollution Abatement**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MARTIN J MICHAUD POWERS KANY	ONTP	

SUMMARY

Under laws pertaining to the state contributions to pollution abatement projects, the Department of Environmental Protection is permitted to pay up to 50% of the expense of individual projects serving seasonal dwellings or commercial establishments. Those laws require that applicants for grants for projects serving single-family dwellings or single commercial establishments include a signed statement of financial condition describing the need for the grant.

This bill proposed to amend that law to permit the department to pay up to 50% of the expense of individual projects serving commercial establishments or up to 25% of the expense of individual projects serving seasonal dwellings. These changes would have made the percentages consistent with the state contributions to residential overboard discharge replacement projects set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 411-A. This bill also proposed to remove the requirement that applicants for grants for such projects provide signed statements of financial condition describing the need for the grant. (See also LD 140)

LD 698 An Act to Require Repair of Septic Systems

**PUBLIC 238
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
JACQUES GOULD R A LORD TITCOMB	OTP-AM	H-182 H-284 JACQUES

SUMMARY

This bill amends provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Titles 30-A and 38 that govern financial assistance to owners of substandard or malfunctioning wastewater treatment systems. If financial assistance is unavailable to owners of substandard or malfunctioning wastewater treatment systems following 30 days from the date of application, the owners must still comply with the state water quality classification program.

Committee amendment "A" (H-182) changes the time a person has to comply to the state water quality classification program subsequent to an application for financial assistance from a fixed period of 30 days, as proposed in the bill, to a 90-day period that is conditional upon ground conditions.

House amendment "A" (H-284) enacted a minor clarification to the bill.