

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
AGRICULTURE**

AUGUST 1991

Staff:
Jill Ippoliti, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Station 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 289-1670*

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STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

**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.

An Act to Establish a Grading System for Maple Syrup Produced in the State

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TITCOMB SIMPSON JACQUES TARDY	OTP-AM	S-185

SUMMARY

This bill establishes new grading standards for maple syrup. The new standards are similar to the standards for maple syrup in Vermont. Committee Amendment "A" (S-185) changes the grade label "Fancy Grade" to "Grade A Light Amber." It changes the grade label "Grade B" to "Grade A Extra Dark Amber." It changes the density requirement from 66.9° Brix to 66.0° Brix. It also adds a density requirement to the standards for Grade A Medium Amber and adds a fiscal note that was omitted in the original bill.

LD 1859 An Act to Amend the Composition of the Animal Welfare Board

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TITCOMB PRAY MARTIN J TARDY	OTP-AM	S-305

SUMMARY

The original bill specified that at least one member of the Animal Welfare Board represent a state licensed animal shelter, and at least one member represent an unlicensed humane society. The bill also proposed an advisory committee to aid the board in developing rules concerning the licensing of animal shelters, pet shops, boarding kennels and kennels.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-305) replaced the original bill. It changes the composition of the Animal Welfare Board by: adding an 11th member; specifying that at least one member represent a state-licensed animal shelter and at least one member represent a licensed kennel, boarding kennel or pet shop; and giving the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources or the commissioner's designee voting rights on the board. The bill as amended specifies that one board member receive compensation from the board's special revenue account. It requires that the board report annually to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture. The amendment added an emergency preamble, an emergency clause and a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1861 An Act to Expand the Membership of the Animal Welfare Board

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
EMERSON TWITCHELL NUTTING SPEAR		

SUMMARY

This bill proposes to abolish the Animal Welfare Board's status as an independent board. The board would once again be an agency of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. It proposes to expand the membership of the Animal Welfare Board from 9 to 11 voting members and specifies that by March of 1992 at least two members must represent state licensed animal shelters. The bill provides for the