

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

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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 1739 An Act to Establish a Grading System for Maple Syrup
Produced in the State**

PUBLIC 326

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

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

**PUBLIC 267
EMERGENCY**

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

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

CARRIED OVER

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

commissioner to appoint an executive director for the board and for the board to recommend candidates to the commissioner. The committee requested that this bill be carried over and the board's status as an independent agency be reconsidered after review of the annual report required by LD 1859. See bill summary for LD 1859.

LD 1958 An Act Regarding Simulcasting of Harness Racing

**PUBLIC 542
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)

TARDY

NUTTING

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-706 TARDY

S-392 TWITCHELL

SUMMARY

This bill provides that the Harness Racing Commission may proceed under the emergency rule-making procedures of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act without finding that an emergency exists if the only rule changes are regarding the number of simulcast races that may be broadcast by a licensee on the same day as a regular track meeting.

The bill also restores to the Harness Racing Commission general rule-making powers regarding simulcasting. The general language was deleted from the law when the language regarding simulcasting of entire racing cards was enacted by the 114th Legislature. The bill makes the language restoring the rule-making powers retroactive to the date when they were accidentally repealed.

House Amendment C (H-706) clarifies that the races being simulcast are horse races and that the commission is allowed to proceed under emergency rule-making without a finding of emergency for 1991 only.

Senate Amendment B (H-392) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

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