

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

MAY 1992

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

MAY 1992

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 far right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

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

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, especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

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

SUMMARY

This bill would have exempted islands that are not connected to the mainland from the law requiring closure of existing landfills.

Committee amendment "A" (H-1076) strikes section 3 of the bill and replaces it with unallocated language directing the Department of Environmental Protection to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy and Natural Resources by January 1, 1993 on the status of municipal solid waste management on those islands that seek an extension of the municipal solid waste landfill closure deadlines. Under this amendment, the department may recommend extensions for certain island landfills if it appears to the department, based on information available to the department at the time, that the landfill does not pose an immediate hazard to the public health or the environment and that the island has demonstrated progress with its solid waste management efforts.

The bill also corrects a conflict created by 2 public laws amending the same section.

LD 2296

An Act to Ensure the Safe Collection and Management of Certain Household Hazardous Wastes

PUBLIC 808

SPONSOR(S)

TREAT
COLES
TITCOMB
MARSH

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-1176

SUMMARY

This bill provides for the development and implementation of a system for collecting and managing household batteries in order to reduce the toxicity of the municipal waste stream and to increase battery recycling programs.

The bill prohibits the disposal of certain dry cell batteries after January 1, 1994. It also requires manufacturers of specified batteries to ensure their collection and limits mercury content of specified batteries.

The sale of products with rechargeable batteries that can not be replaced is prohibited after January 1, 1994. Exemptions are provided for certain medical products and products that can not be redesigned to comply with this provision.

The bill requires the Maine Waste Management Agency to develop collection and management plans for batteries in consultation with manufacturers and wholesalers of those products.

The committee amendment (H-1176) amends existing law to extend the implementation date for developing and implementing a statewide system for the collection and disposal of hazardous waste to 1995.

The amendment also defines several terms used in the bill and amends the disposal ban on certain batteries to limit the ban to certain users. A notification requirement is included for the final supplier of batteries. Mercury content requirements are revised to acknowledge current technology and to be consistent with language enacted by other states. The section on nonremoveable batteries is clarified to target products powered by rechargeable batteries.

In addition to a battery management plan proposed in the original bill, this amendment requires the agency to develop a collection and management plan for paint in consultation with manufacturers and suppliers. The amendment also clarifies that this program is not a state mandate and adds a fiscal note.