

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE

JULY 1993

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

JULY 1993

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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:

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

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

4693NRG

LD 664 **An Act to Amend the Authority of the State Harness Racing Commission to Contract for Certain Services** **CARRIED OVER**

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
TARDY

SUMMARY

This bill would repeal the authority of the State Harness Racing Commission to retain the services of presiding and associate track judges and would allow racetracks and fairs to hire their own judges. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session.

LD 806 **An Act Relating to the Maine Dairy Industry** **PUBLIC 274
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
TARDY OTP-AM H-303
H-458 TARDY

SUMMARY

This bill would have repealed the sunset provision in the Maine Dairy Farm Stabilization Act. The bill was a duplicate of LD 494, which was enacted. See the summary for LD 494.

The committee amendment (H-303) replaces the bill. It raises from 400,000 to 800,000 the limit on pounds of milk used to calculate a dairy farmer's proportional entitlement to distributions from the Maine Dairy Farm Stabilization Fund. The amendment also changes the composition of Maine's representation to the Interstate Dairy Compact. The amendment replaces an agricultural economist with a dairy farmer, to be appointed by the Governor and approved by the Legislature.

House Amendment "A" (H-458) changes the date on which the Maine Dairy Stabilization Tax is imposed to coincide with minimum milk pricing laws and makes the bill an emergency measure.

LD 932 **An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Harness Racing** **PUBLIC 388
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
TARDY OTP-AM H-556
S-299 PARADIS J

SUMMARY

This bill would have allowed commercial tracks to simulcast to off-track betting sites without races being conducted at the race track at the same time.

The committee amendment (H-556) replaces the bill. It creates the Harness Racing Promotional Board; expands the opportunities for off-track betting by permitting any person to apply for a license to operate an off-track betting facility at a Class A restaurant (current law permits only persons who have live racing licenses to apply); strikes the 1995 repeal of the law authorizing off-track betting; and provides for the distribution of commission on wagers made to interstate commingled pools.

The amendment also permits existing off-track betting facilities and commercial racetracks to object to the location of an off-track betting facility within the racetrack or facility market area, and reduces the protected area of a commercial racetrack if off-track betting licenses are not issued within a certain period of time; requires an off-track betting facility to carry simulcasts of live races in the State if they are available for simulcast; increases the percentage of wagers used to supplement purses in certain situations; and places in statute the percent of wagers retained by racetracks and off-track betting facilities.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-299) changes the population criteria in the definition of "commercial track."

LD 998 An Act to Promote Proper Animal Health Care

PUBLIC 367

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
DAGGETT	OTP-AM	H-462 DAGGETT
PARADIS J		H-495 TARDY

SUMMARY

Current law requires approval of the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources for the sale of animal vaccines and other biological products that contain live organisms. This bill expands that regulation to biological products that contain dead organisms.

The bill would also have clarified that farmers are permitted to possess hypodermic apparatus for use on their own farm animals and poultry, and would have specified who may sell hypodermic apparatus, including pharmacies, health care facilities and practitioners, such as physicians and veterinarians, and manufacturers, wholesalers and retail outlets licensed by the Board of Commissioners of the Profession of Pharmacy.

House Amendment "A" (H-462) deletes the portions of the bill relating to hypodermic apparatus, which would otherwise have been in conflict with a bill considered in the Human Resources Committee (See LD 791 in the Human Resources Committee summary).

House Amendment "B" (H-495) makes a technical change to the bill.

LD 1040 An Act to Provide Consistency in the Animal Welfare Laws

PUBLIC 468

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
	OTP-AM	S-256
		S-309 VOSE
		S-369 PEARSON

SUMMARY

This bill was submitted by the Department of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources pursuant to Public Law 1991, chapter 779. The bill makes the following changes in animal welfare laws: removes a contradiction in the law regarding claims against the State for damage done by wild animals; removes undomesticated animals from the definition of animal control; adds a definition for livestock; allows animal control shelters to issue temporary dog licenses; and clarifies that any cat regardless of age needs a booster one year after initial vaccination.

The bill also clarifies the law regarding license and recording fees and adds a provision for a \$3 late fee; makes a technical change in the laws concerning dog license tags and adds a requirement that an