

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE

MAY 1994

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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

MAY 1994

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, 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

P&S XXX

RESOLVE XXX

CON RES XXX

EMERGENCY

ONTP

INDEF PP

FAILED ENACTMENT

FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT

FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT

DIED BETWEEN BODIES

CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE

VETO SUSTAINED

UNSIGNED

DIED ON ADJOURNMENT

Chapter # of enacted Public Law

Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law

Chapter # of enacted Resolve

Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses

Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days

Ought Not to Pass report accepted

Bill Indefinitely Postponed

Bill failed to get majority vote

Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote

Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote

House & Senate disagree; bill died

Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died

Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Not signed by Governor within 10 days

Action incomplete when session ended; bill died

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If you have any suggestions or comments on the summaries, please let us know.

5581LHS

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-1030) requires the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to adopt rules for use of the certification trademark on milk and milk products, rather than leaving adoption as an option.

LD 1925 An Act to Amend the Equine Licensing Laws

**PUBLIC 650
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TARDY	OTP-AM	H-926

SUMMARY

This bill would eliminate mandatory licensing of boarding stables and commercial riding facilities. This bill directs the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to establish fees and criteria for an optional certification procedure for boarding stables and commercial riding facilities and directs the department to develop a plan to organize and promote equine activity throughout the State.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-926) replaces the bill. As in the bill, the amendment changes the mandatory licensing process for commercial riding facilities and persons who board equines for payment to a voluntary certification process. The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources would establish criteria for the certification and must submit proposed criteria to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agriculture matters at least 6 months before they become effective. The amendment also repeals the permitting process and the licensing and permit fees. The amendment requires the department to assist the equine industry in developing a plan to organize and promote equine activity and changes the effective date of the law requiring contracts to include a statement of the inherent risks of equine activities.

LD 1928 An Act to Require Labeling on Genetically Engineered Food

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TITCOMB	ONTP MAJ	
HEESCHEN	OTP-AM MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill would have required the labeling by retailers of genetically engineered food or food organisms and would have required manufacturers and distributors of genetically engineered food to provide information on delivery tickets and invoices of genetically engineered food or food organisms. The minority amendment would have refined the definition of genetically engineered food or food organisms.

LD 1961 An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Maine Dairy and Nutrition Council and the Maine Dairy Promotion Board

PUBLIC 689

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
	OTP-AM	H-1084 TARDY H-861

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Maine Dairy Promotion Board and the Maine Dairy and Nutrition Council to appoint an executive director. Under this bill, staff hired by the board and council are exempt from the Civil Service Law.

The council is given power to contract and duties to cooperate with other agencies, keep books and records, prepare an annual report and receive outside funding. Both the board and the council may delegate the power to contract to the executive director.

The books and records of the council and board must be open to public inspection. The State Auditor is required to annually audit the books of both the council and board and to report the results to the council or board, respectively, and to the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the Treasurer of State and the Legislature.

Both the council and the board are required to keep any funds received in a nonlapsing, separate account.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-861) adds an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "B" (H-1084) provides that, for fiscal year 1993-94 and fiscal year 1994-95, the salaries of the Maine Dairy and Nutrition Council and the Maine Dairy Promotion Board may not exceed the salaries the employees would have received had the salaries been adjusted for shutdown and furlough days. The amendment also replaces the allocation section to reflect this change in salaries and to make corrections.

**LD 1963 Resolve, to Enhance the Development of Alternative Uses of
Maine Agriculture and Forestry Products**

RESOLVE 63

SPONSOR(S)
WHITCOMB

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-874

SUMMARY

This resolve requires the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to develop plans to avail the State of federal grants to develop alternative uses of agricultural products. Under this resolve, the University of Maine and certain organized industry groups will have input in the development process.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-874) requires the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to identify existing and potential opportunities for alternative uses of Maine agricultural products and requires the department to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic development matters as well as to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agriculture matters. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the resolve.