

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
NATURAL RESOURCES

AUGUST 1995

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

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION BEFORE
THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES**

AUGUST 1995

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing 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 publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, is helpful in determining to which committee any particular bill was referred.

In this document, 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 categories of final action are abbreviated as follows:

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

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If more detailed information is needed on a bill, contact the committee analyst.

5581LHS

LD 261

An Act to Exempt Rifle and Pistol Ranges from Noise Ordinances

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
TUTTLE

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have immunized owners of shooting ranges from civil and criminal prosecution for matters relating to noise or noise pollution at the shooting range as long as the shooting range did not generate a sound level in excess of 68 decibels.

See LD 96.

LD 288

An Act Preventing Increases in Certain Processing and Permitting Fees in the Department of Environmental Protection

PUBLIC 173
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)
LORD

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-134

SUMMARY

This bill strikes increases in processing fees and certification fees under certain land use permitting laws, scheduled to go into effect July 1, 1995. The fee increases would have raised an additional \$184,000 for the Maine Environmental Protection Fund (MEPF), which would have been used to reimburse the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund for \$184,000 transferred in fiscal year 1994-95 from the Groundwater Fund to the MEPF to support 3 positions.

The bill proposed to repeal fee increases under the Natural Resources Protection Act and the Site Location of Development Laws; fee levels in effect as of June 30, 1995 would have continued in effect. The bill proposed a General Fund appropriation of \$184,000 to reimburse the Groundwater Fund.

The bill also would have prohibited the Department of Environmental Protection from requesting any fee increases from the 117th Legislature in its second regular session or any special sessions.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-134) reinstates the fee increases for permits under the natural resources protection laws and for site law permits for industrial parks. Scheduled fee increases for all other types of site law permits are repealed.

The amendment also strikes the provisions of the bill prohibiting the Commissioner of Environmental Protection from asking for fee increase legislation during the 117th Legislature and the provisions appropriating General Fund money to the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund.

LD 354

Resolve, to Remove the Emissions Credit Problem in the State and Ensure Future Job Growth and Creation

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
ROBICHAUD

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This resolve would have required the Department of Environmental Protection to prepare a petition for the Governor's signature sufficient to satisfy the United States Environmental Protection Agency's requirements to remove the State from the Ozone Transport Region.

See LD 625.