

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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 267**      **An Act to Require Labeling of Milk Products From Cows Treated with Recombinant Bovine Somatotropin**      **ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
HEESCHEN	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

The bill would have required that milk or milk products sold in this State that were derived from cows treated with recombinant bovine somatotropin, or rBST, be labeled to state that the products had been derived from cows treated with rBST.

**LD 279**      **An Act to Require Labeling on Genetically Engineered Food**      **DIED BETWEEN BODIES**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
HEESCHEN	ONTP      MAJ	
	OTP      MIN	

**SUMMARY**

The bill would have required a retailer who sells genetically engineered food or food organisms to separately display the food and organisms and place a sign by the food that identifies the food as genetically engineered. It would have also required manufacturers and distributors of genetically engineered food or food organisms to use delivery tickets and invoices that identify the food as genetically engineered.

**LD 503**      **An Act Regarding Fees Assessed by the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission for Changes within a Development District**      **PUBLIC 487**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
BENOIT	OTP-AM      MAJ	S-76
	ONTP      MIN	

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have prohibited the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission from assessing a fee for a change in a development district if the change sought is one for which the commission did not initially provide in that development district.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-76) replaces the original bill. It prohibits a fee from being charged for an application to the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission to change an area's designation from a management district to a development district.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 517**      **An Act to Repeal the Retail Seed Dealer's License**      **PUBLIC 435**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
NASS	OTP-AM      MAJ	H-72
	ONTP      MIN	S-384      HANLEY

**SUMMARY**

The bill repeals the requirement that retail seed dealers obtain a retail seed dealer's license.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-72) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-384) delays the effective date of the bill until July 1, 1996.

**LD 561      An Act to Allow County Commissioners to Perform Routine Road Maintenance without Permission from the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission      PUBLIC 64**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
FERGUSON	OTP-AM	S-51

**SUMMARY**

The bill would have allowed counties under the jurisdiction of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission to repair and maintain county roads, bridges or culverts without obtaining a permit from the commission when the cost of a maintenance or repair project is estimated to be \$200,000 or less.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-51) replaces the original bill. It provides that a permit is not required from the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission for the repair or maintenance of county-owned roads, bridges or culverts as long as the repair or maintenance is conducted in accordance with applicable commission standards.

**LD 572      An Act to Transfer Regulatory Control of Whitewater Rafting to the Department of Conservation's Bureau of Parks and Recreation      CARRIED OVER**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
ROTONDI		

**SUMMARY**

This bill would transfer from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to the Bureau of Parks and Recreation in the Department of Conservation all regulation of commercial whitewater rafting trips, with the exception of responsibility for licensing whitewater guides.

**LD 603      An Act to Allow the Sale of Irradiated Food in the State      PUBLIC 276**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
KNEELAND	OTP-AM      MAJ	H-128
BUSTIN	ONTP      MIN	

**SUMMARY**

The bill repeals Maine's ban on the sale of irradiated food and the irradiation of food in the state.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-128) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 673      An Act to Create the Department of Forestry      ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
GOULD	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

The bill would have removed the Bureau of Forestry, also known as the Maine Forest Service, from within the Department of Conservation and established it as a separate, new department.