

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MARINE RESOURCES

AUGUST 1995

Staff:

John G. Kelley, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

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Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait
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**Denotes Chair*



**Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

State House Station 13, Augusta, Maine 04333
Telephone (207) 287-1670
Telecopier (207) 287-1275

**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

SPONSOR(S)
CASSIDY**COMMITTEE REPORT**
OTP-AM**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
S-139**SUMMARY**

The bill would have prohibited all harvesting within 300 feet of aquaculture equipment and required the owner of aquaculture equipment to mark the restricted area with buoys.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-139) replaces the original bill. It reduces from 500 feet to 300 feet the distance from an aquaculture operation in which a person may not operate a vessel using drags, otter trawls, pair trawls, beam trawls, scottish seines or midwater trawls. The amendment also requires the 300-foot area be marked and states that, if the area is marked, violation of the 300-foot restriction is a Class D crime. In addition, the amendment increases the fine for a violation of the distance limitation and requires a 5-year license suspension for a 2nd offense.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note.

LD 767 Resolve, Directing the Department of Marine Resources to Conduct a Study Concerning the Sea Cucumber Industry

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
VOLENIK**COMMITTEE REPORT**
ONTP**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****SUMMARY**

This resolve would have required the Department of Marine Resources to conduct a study concerning the sea cucumber industry and to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources by December 31, 1995.

LD 782 An Act to Establish a Management Framework for the Lobster Fishery within State Waters

PUBLIC 468

SPONSOR(S)
RICE**COMMITTEE REPORT**
OTP-AM A
ONTP B
OTP-AM C**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
H-570
S-359 PINGREE**SUMMARY**

The bill would have enacted a 4-year moratorium on the sale of lobster and crab fishing licenses and enacted limits on the number of traps that could have been used by lobster harvesters. The bill would have also required the Department of Marine Resources to appoint a task force to study and make recommendations to the Legislature on a lobster fisheries entry program to be implemented by January 1, 2000.

Under the provisions of this bill, only persons who, in either 1993 or 1994, held a license, owned a boat and actually harvested lobsters or a person who is a full-time student and not more than 25 years old would have been eligible to purchase a lobster and crab fishing license in 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999.

Beginning on January 1, 1996, the bill would have limited student license holders to 150 traps. Class I, Class II and Class III license holders would have been limited to 1,200 traps in 1996, 1,100 traps in 1997, 1,000 traps in 1998, 900 traps in 1999 and 800 traps in all subsequent years.