

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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Sen. Willis A. Lord
Sen. Judy A. Paradis

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Rep. Edward L. Dexter

Staff:

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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:

CARRIED OVER	<i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>
CON RES XXX	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
EMERGENCY	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
FAILED ENACTMENT	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
INDEF PP	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
ONTP	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
P&S XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
PUBLIC XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
RESOLVE XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
UNSIGNED	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
VETO SUSTAINED	<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 979 **An Act to Amend the Cruelty to Animals Laws by Defining the Term "Undue Suffering"** ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
HANLEY	ONTP	

SUMMARY

The bill would have required the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to adopt rules defining "undue suffering" as it is used in the statutes prohibiting cruelty to animals.

LD 986 **An Act to Regulate Hybrid Wolves** PUBLIC 409

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
HALL	OTP-AM	H-566 KILKELLY H-567 TUTTLE S-287

SUMMARY

The bill would have required a person to obtain a permit from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife before purchasing a hybrid wolf.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-287) replaces the bill and requires wolf hybrids to be licensed and vaccinated for rabies. It also adds a municipal mandate preamble and a fiscal note to the bill.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-566) removes the requirement in the committee amendment that a wolf hybrid be immunized for rabies before it is licensed.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "B" TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-567) corrects a technical error.

LD 998 **An Act to Preserve the Confidentiality of Records Relating to Forest Fire Arson Investigations** PUBLIC 135

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
GOULD	OTP-AM	H-219

SUMMARY

The bill would have provided that information received by the Department of Conservation, Forest Fire Control Division, relating to the cause of forest fires is confidential and may not be released under certain circumstances.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-219) changes the title of the bill to reflect that confidentiality of forest fire arson records applies to all forest fire arson records and not, as the original bill proposed, just those relating to the forest fire arson phone line.

The amendment also clarifies that information kept confidential by the Department of Conservation, Forest Fire Control Division is information relating to reports or records that pertain to arson.