

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE  
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
NATURAL RESOURCES

AUGUST 1995

**Staff:**

*Deborah C. Friedman, Legislative Analyst  
Jon P. Clark, Legislative Analyst*

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

**MEMBERS:**

*\*Sen. Willis A. Lord  
Sen. W. John Hathaway  
Sen. Richard P. Ruhlin*

*\*Rep. Richard A. Gould  
Rep. Thomas E. Poulin  
Rep. Jane W. Saxl  
Rep. Randall L. Berry  
Rep. June C. Meres  
Rep. David C. Shiah  
Rep. Ernest C. Greenlaw  
Rep. Catharine L. Damren  
Rep. Roy I. Nickerson  
Rep. John P. Marshall*

*\*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 &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 1291 An Act to Amend the Income Eligibility Criteria of the Small Community Wastewater Program**

PUBLIC 186

**SPONSOR(S)**  
LAYTON

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

Under the small community wastewater program, the state pays 90% of the cost of projects to correct certain polluting septic or other wastewater treatment systems serving single-family homes, 50% for projects serving commercial establishments and 25% for projects serving seasonal dwellings. Current law limits eligibility for a state grant to homeowners with adjusted gross income not exceeding \$30,000 and to businesses with gross profit not exceeding \$30,000. This bill provides for eligibility for single-family homes and seasonal dwellings based on the owner's taxable income rather than adjusted gross income. It provides a sliding scale for determining the state's share of the cost of projects serving single-family homes, providing for 100% state coverage of costs at taxable income below \$5,000, and no state share for taxable income above \$40,000. The bill also provides for a smaller state payment for projects serving commercial facilities for businesses with gross profit above \$30,000 but not above \$40,000.

**LD 1302 An Act to Grant the Department of Environmental Protection the Authority to Waive the 180-day Limit to Apply for Coverage under the Insurance Fund**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
CLEVELAND

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have allowed the Department of Environmental Protection, for good cause shown, to waive the requirement that an applicant for coverage of clean-up costs and eligible 3rd-party damage costs by the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund request coverage within 180 days of reporting a discharge.

See LD 1387.

**LD 1311 An Act Regarding the Motor Vehicle Emission Inspection Program**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
ADAMS

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have repealed that part of the motor vehicle emission law that exempts vehicles over 10,000 pounds from the test. The bill would have also directed the Governor to request a federal waiver to lower the \$450 repair cost limit and directed the Department of Environmental Protection to establish a program for testing motor vehicles that operate on diesel fuel.