

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 & 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 1469 An Act to Reinstate the Maine Meat Inspection Act

CARRIED OVER

SPONSOR(S) KILKELLY	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

The bill would reenact, with updated language, the Maine Meat Inspection Act that was repealed in 1980. It would provide for state inspection and regulation of the slaughter, processing, labeling, sale and transportation of cattle, sheep, swine, goats or horses, mules or other equines in intrastate commerce.

LD 1489 An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Commission to Study Potato Quality Issues

PUBLIC 298

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT OTP-AM	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED H-408
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SUMMARY

The bill establishes the legal authority for the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to require through rulemaking inspection for specific grades of consumer packs of Maine potatoes. The commissioner must initiate rulemaking to require inspection at the request of the Maine Potato Board.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-408) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1505 Resolve, to Identify Priorities for Public Acquisition of Interests in Land

ONTP

SPONSOR(S) MARTIN	COMMITTEE REPORT ONTP	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

The resolve would have established a process to identify priorities for the acquisition of land or interests in land. The priorities established would have enabled acquisition programs such as the Land for Maine's Future Program, the Forest Legacy Program and other public and private conservation initiatives to function in a coordinated manner.

LD 1540 An Act Concerning Potato Blight Eradication and the Disposal of Cull PotatoesPUBLIC 261
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S) KNEELAND	COMMITTEE REPORT OTP-AM	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED H-418
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SUMMARY

The bill makes it a civil violation to maintain cull potatoes and cull potato piles between June 10th and October 1st of each year. It also gives the Commissioner of Agricultural, Food and Rural Resources or the commissioner's designee the authority to inspect farms to determine whether cull potatoes and cull potato piles are being maintained illegally. It also gives the commissioner authority to remove illegal cull potatoes and cull potato piles and recover the costs of removal and disposal from the landowner. A forfeiture for each violation is set at \$1,000 and \$200 for each additional day. A Potato Cull Removal Fund is established to pay the expenses of potato cull removal.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-418) adds an allocation and a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1551 An Act to Protect Traditional Uses in the North Woods

PUBLIC 386

SPONSOR(S)
GOULD

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-519
H-548 KILKELLY
S-320 CARPENTER

SUMMARY

The bill would have prohibited land use standards adopted by the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission in management districts from limiting the construction and maintenance of primitive campsites. The bill would have also added primitive campsites to the land eligible for coverage under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law.

The bill would have required the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission to establish setback distances for commercial sporting camps in all its districts to distances of not more than 100 feet from a shoreline. It would have also required the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission to assign a staff member to review permit applications for commercial sporting camps.

This bill would have allowed the reconstruction of a damaged or destroyed traditional sporting camp on land under the jurisdiction of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission, provided the reconstructed structure replicates the original structure to the maximum extent possible.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-519) strikes a provision in the original bill that would have prohibited standards of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission, or LURC, in the unorganized territories' management districts from limiting the construction and maintenance of primitive campsites.

The amendment enacts a minimum setback of 100 feet under LURC standards for all structures within a commercial sporting camp complex that are constructed solely for the housing of guests, including structures within a main sporting camp complex and an outpost camp. It also required a minimum setback of 150 feet under LURC standards for all other structures within a sporting camp complex, including, but not limited to, a main lodge, a dining area, a workshop and a parking area.

The amendment also strikes provisions in the original bill that would have amended the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law.

The amendment also allows the reconstruction of destroyed or damaged commercial sporting camps within LURC's jurisdiction that are nonconforming uses but were permissible at the time of the damage or destruction, provided the reconstructed structure replicates the original structure and use to the maximum extent possible and is situated on the same location and within the same footprint as the original structure. Reconstruction must occur within 2 years of the damage or destruction.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-548) clarifies that under the definition of "campsite" an individual camping site may accommodate up to 8 people.

#8184LHS