

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
NATURAL RESOURCES

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 1466 An Act to Create an Adopt-A-River Program**

INDEF PP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
MARTIN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have established the Maine Adopt-A-River Program, which would have been a volunteer program to remove litter from state rivers, administered by the Bureau of Parks and Recreation.

**LD 1485 An Act to Clarify the Definition of Subdivision**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
GOULD

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have amended the definition of "subdivision" in the laws governing municipal planning and land use regulation to provide that a subdivision is created when a legal interest is split off of a tract or parcel of land and 2 noncontiguous portions of the tract or parcel remain.

**LD 1543 An Act to Avoid a Shortfall in the Maine Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund and Amend the Financial Assistance Program for Owners of Underground Oil Storage Facilities**

INDEF PP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
RUHLIN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have amended the law governing revenue to, and disbursements from, the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund. The bill was indefinitely postponed in the Senate before being referred to committee because it was determined that the bill was a revenue raising measure, and as such is required by the state Constitution to originate in the House of Representatives.

See LD 1563, which is identical to LD 1543, but which originated in the House.

**LD 1544 An Act to Streamline Permit Procedures for Freshwater Wetlands in the State**

PUBLIC 460

**SPONSOR(S)**  
LORD  
GOULD

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
S-336

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this bill is to provide applicants in this State with "one-stop shopping" for wetlands permits.

This bill completely rewrites the State's freshwater wetlands regulatory program in an attempt to match the program with proposed changes to the federal program under Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act.

The bill establishes a permit review process that allows for expedited review of 30 days or less for projects having a wetland impact of less than 15,000 square feet (Tier 1) and of 60 days or less for projects having between 15,000 square feet and one acre of wetland impact (Tier 2), unless significant wetland functions would be affected. Applications for Tier 1 projects may be made on abbreviated