

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MARINE RESOURCES**

JUNE 1996

MEMBERS:

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Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait
Sen. Rochelle M. Pingree*

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Rep. Chester A. Rice*

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**ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

***Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
June 1996***

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the 15 Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature staffed by this office. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill, committee amendments and other relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken on the bill. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized alphabetically by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills.

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are 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 finally passed 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>

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is July 4, 1996.

LD 1695**An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Drag Limits in South Bay**

PUBLIC 518

Sponsor(s)
LOOKCommittee Report
OTPAmendments Adopted

LD 1695 proposed to amend the law regarding drag limits in South Bay by clarifying that South Bay is in Lubec and by repealing the requirement that the ring size be the legal size in effect that applies to a holder of a license or federal permit.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1995, chapter 518 amends the law regarding drag limits in South Bay by clarifying that South Bay is in Lubec and by repealing the requirement that the ring size be the legal size in effect that applies to a holder of a license or federal permit.

LD 1714**An Act to Establish a Sea Urchin Management Plan**PUBLIC 595
EMERGENCYSponsor(s)
RICE
LOOKCommittee Report
OTP-AMAmendments Adopted
H-816
H-865

LD 1714 proposed to make the following changes and additions to the sea urchin laws. The bill proposed to create the Sea Urchin Council to advise the Commissioner of Marine Resources on the use of the Sea Urchin Research Fund. The bill also proposed to broaden the purposes for which the fund may be used and allow the commissioner to use 1/2 of the fund's annual revenues to enforce sea urchin laws.

The bill also proposed to increase the fines for 2nd and 3rd convictions of the sea urchin laws. The bill also proposed to require a 10-day license suspension for a first conviction of the sea urchin laws; a one-year license suspension for a 2nd conviction of the sea urchin laws; and a lifetime license revocation for a 3rd conviction of the sea urchin laws.

The bill proposed to prohibit dragging for sea urchins between May 1st and October 14th.

The bill proposed to increase the number of sea urchin harvesting zones from 2 to 4 and establish closure times for each zone. The zone closures would be as follows:

Zone 1 (western) February 1st - July 31st
 Zone 2 (midwestern) March 1st - August 31st
 Zone 3 (mideastern) April 1st - September 30th
 Zone 4 (eastern) February 1st - July 31st

Maine waters would be closed to all sea urchin harvesting for 3 months, from May 1st to July 31st. The bill proposed to allow sea urchin harvesters to fish in 2 adjacent zones. The bill proposed to prohibit sea urchin harvesting on Sundays during the months of August, September, October, February, March and April.

The bill proposed to extend for 4 years certain emergency provisions relating to sea urchin harvesting and exclude from the repeal certain emergency provisions. All of the emergency provisions are currently scheduled to be repealed January 1, 1999. The bill proposed to extend