

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
118TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
NATURAL RESOURCES

MAY 1998

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Sharon Anglin Treat, Chair*

*Sen. John M. Nutting*

*Sen. Jeffrey H. Butland*

*Rep. G. Steven Rowe, Chair*

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**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**May 1998**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. 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 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. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet ([www.state.me.us/legis/opla](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla)).

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:

- CON RES XXX*..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*.....Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*.....House & Senate disagree; bill died
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*.....Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
- EMERGENCY*.....Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Bill failed to get majority vote
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*.....Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
- INDEF PP*.....Bill Indefinitely Postponed
- ONTP*..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
- OTP ND*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
- OTP ND/NT*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
- P&S XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
- PUBLIC XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Public Law
- RESOLVE XXX*..... Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
- UNSIGNED*.....Bill held by Governor
- VETO SUSTAINED*.....Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9, 1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

## Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources

**LD 80**

**An Act to Protect Internal Waters of the State**

**INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PAUL	OTP-AM	

LD 80 proposed to add the criteria of environmental concerns, wildlife habitat, boat speed and traditional uses to the criteria that must be considered by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in developing rules governing the horsepower of motorboats on inland waters.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-805)** proposed to establish the Lakes Assessment and Protection Program within the Department of Environmental Protection. In implementing the program, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection would conduct activities including education and technical assistance, resource monitoring and research and compliance monitoring and enforcement. In establishing priorities for these activities, the commissioner would consider the recommendations of the Great Pond Task Force and the priorities established by the Land and Water Resources Council.

The amendment also proposed to appropriate \$451,516 from the General Fund to provide funds for 4 positions and support costs to carry out the Lakes Assessment and Protection Program. This amendment was not adopted, but it was incorporated into the supplemental budget bill (Public Law 1997, chapter 643).

**LD 660**

**Resolve, Requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to Study Alternative Fuels**

**PUBLIC 791**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TRIPP	OTP-AM MAJ	H-1037
CAREY	OTP-AM MIN	S-783 TREAT

LD 660 proposed to provide that a state or federal authority may not mandate any fuel for use, nor prohibit the sale of any fuel that is sold in any other state of the United States. It proposed to require sellers of gasoline or fuel to post material safety data sheets revealing all known chemical components of those fuels.

It also proposed to prohibit a state or federal authority from implementing any automobile testing policy, process or program without state legislative approval, and it proposed to provide that no aspect of Section 7545(k) of the federal Clean Air Act may be implemented in the State without state legislative approval.

It proposed to require that all money collected by the State on behalf of the Federal Government be placed in an escrow account and withheld until the total cumulative amount withheld from the Federal Government equals the total amount of any financial sanctions, penalties or withholding of funds.

The bill also proposed to instruct the Governor, state representatives, members of the judiciary, constitutional officers and state employees to resign if they fail or refuse to implement the requirements of the bill.