

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

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

**JULY 1997**

***MEMBERS:***

***Sen. Sharon Anglin Treat, Chair***

***Sen. John M. Nutting***

***Sen. Jeffrey H. Butland***

***Rep. G. Steven Rowe, Chair***

***Rep. David C. Shiah***

***Rep. Thomas Bull***

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***Rep. June C. Meres***

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***Rep. Paul Bisulca***

***Staff:***

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**Maine State Legislature**

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

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees  
August 1997**

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. 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:

- CARRIED OVER*.....*Bill carried over to Second Regular Session*
- 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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 26, 1997 and September 19, 1997 for the First Special Session.

*David E. Boulter, Director*

Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

**LD 1286**

**Resolve, to Form a Task Force to Examine Methods of Reimbursing Automobile Owners for Emissions Testing and Consequent Repair Costs**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
KONTOS

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1286 proposed to create a task force to examine methods of reimbursing persons for test fees and repair costs incurred as a result of the auto emissions testing program required by state law in 1994 and repealed in 1995. The resolve proposed to charge the task force with examining ways to alleviate costs that may be imposed upon motor vehicle owners under any testing program imposed in the future under requirements of federal law.

See also LD 1651, which was amended to require the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to make a recommendation on the feasibility of including in any new motor vehicle inspection and maintenance program a method of providing credits toward the program requirements to motor vehicle owners who incurred costs under the repealed emission inspection program.

**LD 1292**

**An Act to Extend the Removal Deadline for Certain Repaired Concrete Underground Oil Storage Tanks**

**PUBLIC 167**

Sponsor(s)  
CAREY  
DEXTER

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
S-108

LD 1292 proposed to extend by three years the existing deadline for removal of certain repaired concrete underground oil storage tanks.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-108)** proposed to add two additional requirements to the deadline extension for removal of certain repaired concrete underground oil storage tanks: leak detection procedures at such tanks would have to include monthly visual monitoring for oil and discharges from such tanks discovered after October 1, 1997 would not be eligible for coverage from the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund of clean-up costs and third-party damage claim costs.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1997, chapter 167 extends by three years the existing deadline for removal of certain repaired concrete underground oil storage tanks. It requires that leak detection procedures at such tanks include monthly visual monitoring for oil. Discharges from such tanks that are discovered after October 1, 1997 are not eligible for coverage from the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund of clean-up costs and third-party damage claim costs.