

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
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

JULY 1997

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Sen. R. Leo Kieffer

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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).

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 Regular 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 IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</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/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</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>OTP ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>OTP ND/NT</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</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>Bill held by Governor</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 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

6. It makes hunting or selling for the purpose of hunting any animal that is not covered by provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, Part 10 a violation of cruelty to animals laws.
7. It amends the requirements for providing shelter to an animal. Livestock must be provided with shelter suitable for the health of that livestock. The shelter requirements for equines remain as in current law.
8. It requires that the names and other identifying information be kept confidential on people providing information to the department of criminal and civil cruelty to animals.
9. It allows the court to order a person convicted of criminal cruelty to animals to pay costs incurred for care and medical treatment of the animal.
10. It also authorizes the court to prohibit a violator from keeping an animal and to require the defendant as a condition of probation to get psychological counseling at the defendant's expense.

LD 1366

An Act Regarding Qualifications of Land Use Regulation Commissioners

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHIAH	ONTP	

LD 1366 proposed requiring the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over conservation and forestry issues to determine that a person appointed to the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission supports the purpose and scope of the commission prior to confirmation. It also proposed changing one of the areas of knowledge required of a LURC commissioner. Currently, four members must be knowledgeable in one of four areas: commerce and industry; fisheries and wildlife; forestry; and conservation. This bill proposed changing “conservation” to “conservation biology and forest ecology”.

LD 1395

Resolve, to Establish the Maine Council on Sustainable Silviculture CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VOLENIK		

LD 1395 proposes a resolve to establish the Maine Council on Sustainable Silviculture. The resolve would charge the council with developing benchmarks and advising the Governor and Legislature concerning measurable benchmarks for sustainable silvicultural practices. The council would be directed to submit a draft report to the Legislature by October 15, 1998 and a final report by October 1, 1999. The Council terminates on October 1, 1999.