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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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:

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 ToPass 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

processes less than 1,000,000 pounds of wild blueberries in a year may serve on the commission as a grower representative.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 511 makes the Maine Blueberry Commission a public instrumentality of the State. It changes the commission's name to the " Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine" and changing references from "blueberries" to "wild blueberries." It allows a grower who processes less than 1,000,000 pounds of wild blueberries in a year to serve on the commission as a grower representative and provides for staggered terms for commission members. The effective date is June 12, 1997.

LD 1686   **An Act to Permit the Retail Sale of Smoked Alewives**   **PUBLIC 439**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
PERKINS	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-613
	ONTP	MIN	

LD 1686 proposed allowing alewives smoked without removing the viscera to be offered for sale. Currently regulations of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources prohibit the sale of alewives smoked without removing the viscera.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-613) was the majority report of the committee. It proposed adding a requirement for a person selling alewives smoked with their viscera to post a sign advising consumers to cook them prior to eating.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 439 allows alewives smoked without removing the viscera to be offered for sale. It a requires a person selling alewives smoked with their viscera to post a sign advising consumers to cook them prior to eating.

LD 1726   **An Act to Minimize Reliance on Pesticides**   **PUBLIC 389**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
KILKELLY	OTP-AM	MAJ	S-272
	OTP-AM	MIN	

LD 1726 proposed to establish the Special Advisory Committee on Pesticides Reduction of the Board of Pesticides Control. The committee would have been charged with studying and making recommendations to the board and the Legislature regarding methods to accomplish incremental reductions in the volumes of pesticides sold and applied so that for the year 2002 a reduction of 33% over 1996 levels would have been achieved. It also proposed requiring the board to adopt rules to achieve a 33% reduction by 2003 if the reduction were not achieved for 2002.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-272) was the majority report of the committee. It proposed to replace the original resolve and to direct the agencies of the State to promote integrated pest management and to work with private