

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

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Sen. John M. Nutting

Sen. James D. Libby

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees
August 1999

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. 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 and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the 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).

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
ENACTMENT FAILED..... Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
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 September 18, 1999.

- 8. It prohibits sludge land application sites within 75 feet of any river, perennial stream or great pond, and a storage site or storage facility that is off the site of generation of the sludge and that is within 250 feet of any river, perennial stream or great pond.
- 9. It allows a person who owns property that abuts a sludge land application site or storage facility to restrict the sludge application or sludge storage site to no less than 50 feet from the abutting property boundary.

LD 921

An Act to Opt Out of the Requirement to Use Reformulated Gas

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| GOODWIN | ONTP | |

LD 921 proposed to require the Governor to petition the federal government to end the requirement for sale of reformulated gas in certain counties in the State.

LD 940

An Act to Permit Property Owners to Put Sand on and Rake Their Beaches

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MACK | ONTP | |

LD 940 proposed to allow property owners who own land on the water to rake their beaches without the need to get permits under the natural resources protection laws. The bill also proposed to allow property owners on Sebago Lake to add sand, gravel and rocks to their beaches for 1 1/2 years without the need to get permits. The bill proposed to repeal this exception to the permit requirement 18 months from the effective date.

LD 953

An Act to Reclassify Certain Waters of the State

PUBLIC 277

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| NUTTING J CAMERON | OTP-AM | S-220 |

LD 953 proposed to implement a list of recommendations made by the Board of Environmental Protection for the reclassification of surface waters pursuant to the guidance provided in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 464, subsection 2. The proposed reclassifications are based on actual water quality data, water quality model projections after completion of treatment facilities or other management changes to these waters, and from public comments received at a series of statewide public hearings conducted by the board to acquire information on present and potential use.

This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Environmental Protection.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-220) proposed to do the following:

- 1. To reclassify the South Branch Carrabassett River from Class A to Class AA, but to specify that the existing use of permitted water withdrawal from that river segment provides significant social and economic benefits and may be maintained;