

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

JULY 2000

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
July 2000

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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:

<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>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

David E. Boulter, Director
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 592 enacts a definition of "ecological reserve" and allows the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands to designate as an ecological reserve lands under the jurisdiction of the bureau that were listed as parcels for potential ecological reserve designation in the 1998 published inventory. In the process of adopting a management plan for a parcel of land that was not in the 1998 inventory, the director may designate additional land as an ecological reserve.

Chapter 592 specifies uses allowed on ecological reserves. It prohibits timber harvesting, commercial mining and excavation of sand and gravel on ecological reserves. It provides limits on the total acreage within the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Parks and Lands that may be designated as ecological reserves and limits the amount of operable timberland that may be designated as ecological reserves. It requires wildfires to be controlled and specifies allowed protection measures. It requires the director to include information on ecological reserves in the director's annual reports to the Legislature on reserved and nonreserved public lands.

LD 855 **An Act to Improve the Management of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARTIN		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 855 proposed requiring in statute that the principal administrative office of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway be established at Churchill Dam.

LD 1182 **An Act to Amend the Qualifications of Weighmasters** **PUBLIC 646**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TESSIER PINGREE		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-952
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LD 1182 proposed establishing a corporate public weighmaster license.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-952) proposed specifying that only a person holding an individual public weighmaster's license would be allowed to issue weight certificates under a corporate license. It also proposed a penalty for a corporate licensee who allowed a nonlicensed individual to issue weight certificates.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 646 establishes a corporate public weighmaster license. Only a person holding an individual public weighmaster's license is allowed to issue weight certificates under a corporate license. The individual weighmaster issuing a weight certificate must be identified by number on the corporate seal.