

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

JULY 1999

Staff:
Jill Ippoliti, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670

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Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

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.

LD 1343**An Act to Establish Blueberry Weight Accountability****ONTP**

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

LD 1343 proposed that blueberries transported out of the State be weighed prior to transportation and the weight recorded on the transportation permit form. (See bill summary for LD 736)

LD 1404**An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Farmstead Cheese****ONTP**

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

LD 1404 proposed to exempt a producer of farmstead cheese from sales restrictions if that producer had been producing farmstead cheese before the effective date of those restrictions and if the cheese were labeled to indicate that it was heat-treated, not pasteurized. (See bill summary for LD 799)

LD 1416**Resolve, to Encourage Replanting of Hardwood Trees****ONTP**

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

LD 1416 proposed requiring the Maine Forest Service to study strategies to encourage the replanting of hardwood trees and report its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry no later than December 1, 1999.

LD 1418**Resolve, to Direct the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station to Conduct a Pilot Project on Blueberry Cultivation in the St. John River Valley****RESOLVE 27**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SIROIS	OTP-AM	H-228

LD 1418 proposed authorizing burning of blueberry lands in the St. John River Valley without a permit.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-228) proposed replacing the bill with a resolve to direct the Director of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station at the University of Maine to develop and conduct a pilot project on the cultivation of wild blueberries along the St. John River Valley using existing resources and grant money from appropriate sources.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 27 directs the Director of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station at the University of Maine to develop and conduct a pilot project on the cultivation of wild blueberries along the St. John River Valley using existing resources and grant money from appropriate sources.