

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

Rep. John L. Martin, Chair

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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.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCKEE NUTTING J	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1537, a concept draft, proposed to increase local road assistance funds to towns for use in special erosion control projects on town roads located in lake watershed areas. These additional funds would be provided to towns on a project-by-project basis and only upon application by the town. The bill also proposed to consider direct impacts from state aid and federal aid highways in projects funded through existing highway lake protection programs.

LD 1550**Resolve, to Establish a Task Force to Study the Improvement of Public Water Supply Protection****RESOLVE 80
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> COWGER TREAT	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-425 H-540 MARTIN S-456 MICHAUD
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LD 1550 proposed to establish the Public Water Supply Protection Task Force, consisting of 17 members, to review existing protections for public water supplies and to identify steps to improve protection of public water supply wells and intakes. The bill proposed to require the task force to submit its report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources by January 15, 2000.

This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Human Services.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-425) proposed to add an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the resolve. The amendment proposed to specify that the cochairs of the Public Water Supply Protection Task Force would be appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. It proposed to add as a duty of the task force the identification of steps to improve protection of public water supply wells and intakes from surface water uses posing threats to drinking water quality. The amendment proposed to specify that the task force shall submit its report to the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources.

The amendment also proposed to make a technical change in the fiscal year in the appropriation.

House Amendment "A" (H-540) proposed to change the reporting date to January 14, 2000.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-456) proposed to add 2 members who are Legislators to the Public Water Supply Protection Task Force. It proposed to require the task force to evaluate fuel handling problems that lead to groundwater contamination from fuel and fuel additives, including MTBE. It proposed that the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis provide additional staffing assistance to the task force at the request of the chairs.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 80 establishes the Public Water Supply Protection Task Force, consisting of 19 members, to review existing protections for public water supplies, to evaluate fuel handling problems that lead to groundwater contamination from fuel and fuel additives and to identify steps to improve protection of public water supply wells and intakes. The task force shall submit its report to the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources by January 14, 2000.

LD 1562

An Act to Establish the Environmental Leadership Program

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
AMERO MURPHY T		

LD 1562 proposes to establish the voluntary Environmental Leadership Program under which a person may receive incentives for improving environmental quality if a facility owned by the person meets certain criteria. The incentives would include financial, procedural, license and public recognition incentives. The bill proposes to require the Board of Environmental Protection to adopt rules necessary to implement the program by July 1, 2000.

The bill also proposes to establish the Environmental Leadership Fund under which a person who owns a facility may receive a loan at below-market rates for pollution prevention, toxic use reduction, resource use reduction, resource recovery, energy efficiency or development of innovative environmental technologies. The fund would be authorized to receive dollars from any public or private source. This bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.

LD 1601

Resolve, to Direct the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Economic and Community Development to Devise a Proposal for Long-term Funding of the Removal of Tire Dumps

RESOLVE 48

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SMALL SHIAH	OTP-AM	H-539 MARTIN S-186

LD 1601 proposed to require the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to devise a system for entering into long-term contracts with tire abatement and site remediation contractors.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-186) proposed to remove the requirement that the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development devise a system for entering into long-term contracts with tire abatement and site remediation contractors and further proposed that the commissioners review alternative funding issues for dealing with waste tires. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the resolve.

House Amendment "A" (H-539) proposed to change the reporting date.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 48 requires the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to devise a system for entering into contracts with tire abatement and site remediation contractors and further requires that the commissioners review alternative funding issues for dealing with waste tires. The Commissioners are to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources by January 14, 2000.