

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

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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.

LD 1709**An Act to Strengthen Maine's Animal Welfare Laws****ONTP**

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

LD 1709 proposed a definition of proper shelter in the criminal cruelty to animals statute. The proposed language tracked the language currently contained in the law governing civil violations. (See bill summary for LD 742)

LD 1737**An Act to Eliminate the Use of Nongovernmental Entities in Acquiring and Managing Lands****INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOY	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1737 proposed amending the law pertaining to the use of the Land for Maine's Future Fund and the Public Access to Maine Waters Fund for acquiring and managing significant natural lands in Maine. It would have prohibited distribution of these funds to private nonprofit organizations and other designated nongovernmental bodies for the purpose of acquiring lands. It also would have prohibited management of these lands by nongovernmental entities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-491) was the minority report. It proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. The minority report was not adopted.

LD 1738**Resolve, to Allow the Modification of a Conservation Easement on Property Leased to Robert Vadas****ONTP**

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

LD 1738 proposed modifying a conservation easement to allow an outhouse to remain in its present location.

LD 1757**An Act to Support the Work of the Maine Rabies Work Group****ONTP**

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

LD 1757 proposed requiring the Bureau of Health to coordinate and keep records of interdepartmental efforts to respond to the presence of rabies in the State. This bill also proposed that the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the Department of Conservation, the Department of Human Services and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife continue to collaborate on efforts to respond to the presence of rabies in the State including working with the informal Maine rabies work group. This bill proposed an appropriation of \$1,000 for the biennium to pay the administrative expenses incurred by the Bureau of Health to carry out the purposes of this bill.