

# 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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*Sen. Marge L. Kilkelly*  
*Sen. R. Leo Kieffer*

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*Rep. Barry G. Gillis*



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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](http://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 2006****An Act to Eliminate the Dog Licensing Requirement****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BUMPS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2006 proposed repealing licensing requirements for dogs.

**LD 2007****An Act to Amend the Laws Concerning Abuse of Domesticated Animals****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> AHEARNE BENNETT		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2007 proposed amendments to the laws concerning abuse of domesticated animals. The bill proposed adding transporting an animal in a manner injurious to its health, safety or physical well-being and the crime of aggravated cruelty to animals as criminal violations of cruelty to animals. The bill proposed repealing the section of law that allows an owner to shoot a cat or dog. It proposed adding as a penalty for cruelty to animals that a court order a defendant to pay for the cost of caring for an animal pending the decision of the court. The bill also proposed changing the fine for a second or subsequent offense of cruelty to animals to not less than \$500. (See bill summary for LD 742)

**LD 2065****An Act to Amend the Posting Requirements of Harvested Wood Lots****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TRAHAN		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2065 proposed removing the requirement that notification forms containing certain information about timber harvesting be posted at the site of the harvesting. (See bill summary LD 407)

**LD 2066****An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Slash Disposal along Highways and Railroad and Utility Corridors****PUBLIC 332**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> COWGER KIEFFER		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-524
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LD 2066 proposed amending the laws governing the disposal of slash by a landowner who cuts forest growth on land that is within or borders on the right-of-way of a public highway, railroad or utility and the laws governing the disposal of slash accumulated by utility line construction or maintenance. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Conversation.