

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

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Sen. James D. Libby

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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 2228

An Act to Provide for Alternative Treatment of Biomedical Waste

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PARADIS MARTIN		

LD 2228 proposes to allow the Department of Environmental Protection to permit a type of biomedical waste treatment facility that uses microwave disinfection technology. This bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.

LD 2238

An Act to Clarify the Solid Waste Laws as They Relate to the Exception to the Ban on New Commercial Landfills

**PUBLIC 525
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAGGETT COWGER	OTP-AM	S-441

LD 2238 proposed to clarify the definition of "commercial waste facility" under the waste management laws.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-441) proposed to replace the bill by proposing to clarify the definition of "commercial solid waste disposal facility" and clarify the exceptions to the prohibition on commercial solid waste disposal facilities under the existing definition of commercial solid waste disposal facilities. In addition, the amendment proposed to specify that a generator-owned facility may not claim an exemption from the commercial solid waste disposal facility if it is primarily engaged in the business of treating or disposing of solid waste.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 525 clarifies the definition of "commercial solid waste disposal facility" and clarifies the exceptions to the prohibition on commercial solid waste disposal facilities. Specifically, the law clarifies that a publicly owned solid waste facility is exempt from the prohibition on "commercial solid waste disposal facility" provided that the public entity also controls the decisions regarding the type and source of waste that is accepted, handled, treated and disposed of at the facility. In addition, the law specifies that a generator-owned facility may not claim an exemption from the commercial solid waste disposal facility if it is primarily engaged in the business of treating or disposing of solid waste.

Chapter 525 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 17, 1999.

LD 2244

An Act to Fund Training Programs for Water Pollution Control Facility Operators

P & S 52

<u>Reported by</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TREAT	OTP	

LD 2244 proposed to appropriate \$40,000 per year to the Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land and Water Quality to support training programs for wastewater treatment plant operators. This bill was reported out of committee pursuant to Joint Order S. P. 843.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 52 appropriates \$40,000 per year to the Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land and Water Quality to support training programs for wastewater treatment plant operators.

SP 827 **Joint Order Relative to the Task Force on Patterns of Development** **INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TREAT		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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SP 827 proposed to establish the Legislative Task Force on Patterns of Development. The joint order proposed to give the 14 member task force the following responsibilities: to review legislation relating to patterns of development carried over by the First Regular Session of the 119th Legislature, to review past work of the Legislature and state agencies relating to sprawl and service center communities and to report to the Legislature with recommendations.

A similar task force is established by Resolve 1999, chapter 63 (LD 304 in the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government).

HP 1581 **Joint Order Relative to the Stakeholders Group to Explore Options and Alternatives to MTBE and RFG** **INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARTIN		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-582
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HP 1581 proposed to establish a stakeholders group to explore issues relating to alternative fuels, including alternatives to reformulated gasoline and MTBE.

House Amendment "A" (H-582) proposed to clarify that 2 of the members of the stakeholders group must be representatives of the fuel industry.

HP 1591 **Joint Resolution Supporting the Efforts of the Department of Environmental Protection in Protecting the People and Resources of Maine from Oil Spills** **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TWOMEY GOLDTHWAIT		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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HP 1591 proposes to support ongoing oil tanker safety rules and the oil spill prevention efforts of the Department of Environmental Protection. This Joint Order was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. This bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.