

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
NATURAL RESOURCES**

JULY 2000

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
July 2000

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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:

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
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE..... Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE..... Bill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT..... Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

LD 2587

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources Relating to the Review of the Advisory Commission on Radioactive Waste and Decommissioning Under the State Government Evaluation Act

PUBLIC 585

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2587 proposed to implement the recommendations made by the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources as a result of the committee's review of the Advisory Commission on Radioactive Waste and Decommissioning under the State Government Evaluation Act. This bill proposed to:

1. Extend the termination date of the commission from June 30, 2000 to June 30, 2006 and subject the commission to its next State Government Evaluation Act review beginning in 2005; and
2. Require the commission to issue a report in 2002 with recommendations for altering the funding formula in the event the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company plant in Wiscasset no longer generates low-level radioactive waste.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 585 implements the recommendations made by the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources as a result of the committee's review of the Advisory Commission on Radioactive Waste and Decommissioning under the State Government Evaluation Act. The law extends the termination date of the commission from June 30, 2000 to June 30, 2006, subjects the commission to its next State Government Evaluation Act review beginning in 2005, and requires the commission to issue a report in 2002 with recommendations for altering the funding formula in the event the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company plant in Wiscasset no longer generates low-level radioactive waste.

LD 2597

An Act to Improve Public Water Supply Protection

PUBLIC 761

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-1106
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LD 2597 proposed to implement the recommendations of the Task Force to Study the Improvement of Public Water Supply Protection, established pursuant to Resolve 1999, chapter 80. The bill proposed to strengthen notice requirements for projects that could threaten water supplies and to require a municipality to give a water supplier notice if a project is proposed near its groundwater wells or surface water intakes.

The bill proposed to move the Maine Drinking Water Program from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Environmental Protection and to require the Department of Environmental Protection to hire a consultant to help integrate the program into its overall structure. The bill proposed to allow the Department of Environmental Protection to deny, based on the presence of existing threats, an application to establish a new public water supply. The bill also proposed to require the Land and Water Resources