

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

JULY 2000

Staff:

Jill Ippoliti, Legislative Analyst

***Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670***

MEMBERS:

***Sen. John M. Nutting, Chair
Sen. Marge L. Kilkelly
Sen. R. Leo Kieffer***

***Rep. Wendy Pieh, Chair
Rep. Paul Volenik
Rep. Elizabeth Watson
Rep. Scott W. Cowger
Rep. Rosita Gagne
Rep. Ruel P. Cross
Rep. Walter R. Gooley
Rep. Clifton E. Foster
Rep. Roderick W. Carr
Rep. Barry G. Gillis***



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

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

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 2662

Part A of this bill proposed amending statutory definitions to use terms consistent with definitions in the major substantive rules proposes for authorization in LD 2595. It proposed increasing the fines for violations of the Maine milk laws. It proposed clarifying activities relating to the sale and distribution of milk and milk products that require a license or permit from the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Part B of this bill proposed makes statutory changes to provide for payment to milk producers using component pricing.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 679 amends statutory definitions to use terms consistent with definitions in the proposed major substantive rules. It increases the fines for violations of the Maine Milk laws. It clarifies activities relating to the sale and distribution of milk and milk products that require a license or permit from the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. Part B of chapter 679 makes statutory changes to provide for payment to milk producers using component pricing. Chapter 679 has an effective date of April 12, 2000.

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report
OTP-AM MAJ

Amendments Adopted

LD 2665 proposed the majority report. It proposed directing the Commissioner of Conservation to provisionally adopt rules to establish statewide standards for timber harvesting activities in areas adjacent to rivers, streams, ponds, wetlands and tidal waters. This bill also proposed eliminating any waiting period for road construction activities associated with forest management activities. See LD 2666 for a summary of minority report. The 2 reports were identical except that the minority report did not propose eliminating the waiting period currently provided for in rule.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 695 directs the Commissioner of Conservation to provisionally adopt rules to establish statewide standards for timber harvesting activities in areas adjacent to rivers, streams, ponds, wetlands and tidal waters. It requires the rules to retain standards established by the Department of Environmental Protection under the laws relating to mandatory shoreland zoning and natural resources protection when those standards are consistent with standards established by the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission. It authorizes the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction

over forestry matters to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature to amend statutes administered and enforced by the Department of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission pertaining to timber harvesting activities. Chapter 695 also eliminates any waiting period for road construction activities associated with forest management activities. A permit by rule becomes effective when the Department of Environmental Protection receives notification of the activity as long as the notification is complete and the activity is eligible for a permit by rule.

LD 2666 **An Act to Provide for Statewide Standards for Timber Harvesting in Shoreland Areas** **NO ACTION TAKEN**

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

LD 2666, which is the minority report, proposed directing the Commissioner of Conservation to adopt rules to establish statewide standards for timber harvesting activities in areas adjacent to rivers, streams, ponds, wetlands and tidal waters. See the bill summary for LD 2665. Because LD 2665 was enacted, the Legislature took no action on this bill.

LD 2687 **An Act to Implement a Maine Meat and Poultry Inspection Program** **PUBLIC 777**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
				H-1119 PIEH S-793 MICHAUD

LD 2687 proposed the establishment of a state meat inspection program.

House Amendment "A" (H-1119) proposed deleting unnecessary language relating to subpoenas issued by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-793) proposed deappropriating unnecessary funds from the Harness Racing Commission within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and appropriating one-time funding to establish a poultry and meat inspection program.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 777 directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to implement a meat and poultry inspection program. It requires the standards of the state program to be at least as stringent as and consistent with the federal meat inspection program. It requires the identification of inspected products. It establishes licensing provisions for categories of people engaged in intrastate commerce with regard to the processing and selling of meat and meat products.