

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

First Regular Session

*Bill Summaries
Joint Standing Committee
on
Natural Resources*

August 2001

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120th Legislature
First Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 2001

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 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:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>OTP ND/NT</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

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 21, 2001**.

David E. Boulter, Director
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Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources

Require the Land and Water Resources Council to report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resource matters on the status of aquatic invasive species prevention and control in the State.

The bill also proposed to appropriate funds to further administer the invasive aquatic plant laws.

LD 612 **An Act to Permit Excavations Within 25 Feet of Streams** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCALEVEY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 612 proposed to amend the performance standards for excavations and for quarries by allowing the Department of Environmental Protection to grant a variance from the width requirement of a buffer strip from a river, stream or brook, provided the buffer strip was no less than 25 feet.

LD 650 **An Act Creating a Fund to Assist Towns with Public Water Sources that have Eurasian Milfoil** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> WATERHOUSE BENNETT		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 650 proposed to create a fund within the Department of Environmental Protection to assist municipalities in controlling invasive aquatic plants that threatened municipal surface drinking water supplies. Financial assistance to municipalities under this program was subject to availability of funding. The bill also required the Department of Environmental Protection to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources by January 15, 2002 with recommendations on sources of funding for this fund.

LD 671 **Resolve, to Direct the Bureau of Forestry to Provide Community Forestry Training to Towns** **RESOLVE 37**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GAGNON KOFFMAN		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-136
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LD 671 proposed to direct the State Planning Office within the Executive Office to offer community forestry training to towns and local planning boards. The resolve also directed the State Planning Office to develop a model ordinance to provide to towns that are interested in passing an ordinance for community forestry.

Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources

Committee Amendment "A" (S-136) proposed to direct the Bureau of Forestry to provide community forestry training to towns and to develop a model ordinance for community forestry. It also added a fiscal note to the resolve.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2001, chapter 37 directs the Bureau of Forestry to provide community forestry training to towns and to develop a model ordinance for community forestry.

LD 704

An Act to Establish the Rivers and Streams Restoration Fund

ONTP

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

LD 704 proposed to require that all fines assessed for violations of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38 that involved the discharge of any pollutant into a river or stream of this State would be deposited in a new fund to be called the Rivers and Streams Restoration Fund. Money in the fund could be used by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to fund project proposals for innovative pollution prevention, pollution reduction and river and stream restoration.

LD 787

An Act to Require the Filing of Soils Tests

ONTP

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

LD 787 proposed to require a licensed site evaluator to file a copy of any soil evaluation report prepared by the evaluator with both the Department of Human Services and the municipality where the evaluation was conducted.

LD 821

An Act to Promote the Recycling of Household Batteries

ONTP

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

LD 821, a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposed to establish a statewide program to encourage the recycling of rechargeable household batteries.