

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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Sen. Tom Sawyer, Jr.
Sen. Kevin L. Shorey*

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Maine State Legislature
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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:

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*
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 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

LD 824

An Act to Provide Free Access to Any Great Pond Controlled by a Dam

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CLARK		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 824 proposed to grant the public a right-of-way on foot or by vehicle to any great pond in the State that was created by a dam authorized by State Government or Federal Government.

LD 828

An Act to Encourage Proper Disposal of Propane Tanks

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> O'NEIL		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 828 proposed to provide funds to the Department of Environmental Protection to develop and implement a program of outreach and education that would encourage the proper collection and disposal of gas grill propane tanks.

LD 857

An Act to Strengthen the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund

PUBLIC 216

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DAIGLE MARTIN		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-229
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LD 857 proposed to raise the amount of the Ground Water Oil Clean-up fund balance of which surcharge fees can be charged from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000 and to terminate the fees when the fund balance reaches \$7,000,000, rather than \$5,000,000.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-229) proposed several changes to the bill, including clarifying language regarding standard deductibles, removing exemptions from coverage under the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund for applicants having certain relationships with entities that own or operate an oil refinery and increases limits on surcharges.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 216 raises the amount of the Ground Water Oil Clean-up fund balance of which surcharge fees can be charged from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000. The fees terminate when the fund balance reaches \$7,000,000, rather than \$5,000,000. The law also clarifies that the amount of the standard deductibles applicable under the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund are based on the number of underground storage facilities or the capacity of gallons owned by the aboveground oil storage facility owner at the time a discharge is discovered and