

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
120th Legislature*

*First Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry*

*August 2001*

**Members:**

*Sen. Richard Kneeland, Chair  
Sen. John Nutting  
Sen. Marge L. Kilkelly*

*Rep. Linda Rogers McKee, Chair  
Rep. Paul Volenik  
Rep. Susan M. Hawes  
Rep. Sally Landry*

*Rep. Jacqueline A. Lundeen  
Rep. Raymond G. Pineau  
Rep. Walter R. Gooley  
Rep. Clifton E. Foster  
Rep. Roderick W. Carr  
Rep. Arlan R. Jodrey*

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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](http://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*  
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

# Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Public Law 2001, chapter 63 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 12, 2001.

**LD 913**

## **An Act Regarding Variances to the Implementation Dates of the Nutrient Management Law**

**PUBLIC 64  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KNEELAND GOOLEY	OTP-AM	S-20

LD 913 proposed amending the nutrient management law regarding the issuance of variances to allow the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to issue a variance from the deadline for completion and certification of a plan. The bill also proposed eliminating the requirement for a 90-day time period between the time of the request for a variance and the applicable implementation date.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-20)** proposed replacing the bill with alternate language to allow the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to grant variances to delay the date by which a nutrient management plan must be prepared and certified. It also proposed providing a reclassification within the Office of Agricultural, Natural and Rural Resources.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 64 allows the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to grant a variances from the January 1, 2001 deadline for preparation and certification of a nutrient management plan when technical assistance or resources were not available. It also provides a reclassification within the Office of Agricultural, Natural and Rural Resources.

Public Law 2001, chapter 64 was enacted as an emergency measure with a retroactive effective date of January 1, 2001.

**LD 925**

## **An Act to Allow Cultivation of Those Varieties of Ribes That are Certified Resistant or Immune to White Pine Blister Rust**

**ONTP**

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

LD 925 proposed allowing the possession, shipment and cultivation of plants of the genus Ribes, including gooseberries, currants, European black currants and other members of the Ribes plant genus if the products were specifically labeled by the shipper as certified resistant or immune to white pine blister rust.