

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).

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

LD 1170

An Act to Amend the Animal Welfare Laws

**PUBLIC 422
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NUTTING J GOOLEY	OTP-AM	S-286

LD 1170 proposed several changes in definitions in the animal welfare laws and amendments to dog and kennel licensing provisions. It proposed granting subpoena authority to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to strengthen the enforcement capabilities of the department.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-286) proposed replacing the bill. It proposed increasing the registration fee for commercial feeds and pet food. It proposed allowing the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to authorize veterinarians to serve as dog licensing agents and to adopt rules to implement this option for issuing licenses and collecting license fees.

It proposed granting subpoena authority to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to strengthen the enforcement capabilities of the department. It proposed a provision allowing law enforcement officers, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, humane agents, animal control officers and the state veterinarian to exchange information relating to cases of alleged animal cruelty. It also proposed providing immunity from civil and criminal liability for a veterinarian reporting a case of alleged animal cruelty.

LD 1174

An Act to Legalize Hemp for Agricultural Purposes

**DIED BETWEEN
BODIES**

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

LD 1174 proposed permitting a person to possess hemp used for agricultural purposes beginning July 1, 2002. It proposed requiring the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the Department of Public Safety to examine the issue of legalizing the use of hemp for agricultural purposes and to report with implementing legislation that legalizes the use of hemp for agricultural purposes to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later than January 1, 2002.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-310) proposed replacing the original bill. It was the minority report. It proposed enacting a definition of "industrial hemp" and authorizing the Director of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station to obtain the appropriate federal permits to study the feasibility of growing industrial hemp. It proposed directing the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to write to federal agencies expressing support for research and appropriate regulation to allow the cultivation of industrial hemp if research indicated significant potential as an agricultural crop.