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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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, <u>History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents</u>, 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	Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE	
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House & Senate disagree; bill died
	accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
FMFRGFNCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAG	E Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE	
FAILED MANDATE FNACTMENT	Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
NOT PROPERLY REFORE THE RODY	Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEE DE	Rill Indefinitely Postnored
ONTP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP ND	
OTD ND/NT	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
DLC VVV	
DIDIIC VVV	Chapter # of enacted Public I au
DECOIVE VVV	Chapter # of finally passed Deschie
INGICNED	Chapter # of enacted Public LawChapter # of finally passed ResolveBill held by Governor
VETO CICTAINED	But neta by GovernorLegislature failed to override Governor's Veto
VEIU SUSIAINED	Legisiaiure jailea to overriae 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.

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

records including the names and addresses of persons growing its genetically engineered products in Maine for at least 2 years after the date of sale. Failure to comply with these provisions is a civil violation with a fine of up to \$1,500. The Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources may suspend or revoke a seed labeler license if the license holder fails to comply with the provisions regarding instructions and record keeping. A manufacturer or seed dealer is not required to keep records on seed packets of less than one pound sold at the retail level.

LD 1269 An Act to Provide for Maintenance of State-owned Land and Facilities

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
SAVAGE W	ONTP	

LD 1269 proposed requiring that 20% of the proceeds from the sale of bonds for and public contributions to the Land for Maine's Future Fund and the Public Access to Maine Waters Fund be transferred to a stewardship account. Money from the stewardship account would be distributed to state agencies that managed, maintained and developed land for public recreation opportunities to be used for improving and maintaining state-owned land and facilities.

LD 1371 An Act to Establish the Dairy Industry Fund

PUBLIC 8
EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
WESTON	OTP-AM	Н-39
KILKELLY		

LD 1371 proposed establishing the Maine Dairy Industry Fund under the auspices of the Maine Milk Commission, within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to be distributed, according to allocations made by the Legislature, to a statewide association representing dairy farmers. It proposed a fee of 1¢ per hundredweight paid by Maine milk producers to dealers as part of the dealer's monthly reports as a means of funding.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-39) proposed clarifying that a dealer would deduct the 1¢ per hundredweight for deposit into the Dairy Industry Fund from the amount paid to a Maine milk producer.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 8 establishes the Dairy Industry Fund under the auspices of the Maine Milk Commission, within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to be distributed, according to allocations made by the Legislature, to a statewide association representing dairy farmers. A fee of 1¢ per hundredweight is deducted from the amount paid to a Maine milk producer and deposited into the fund by the milk dealer.

Public Law 2001, chapter 8 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 28, 2001.

LD 1379 An Act to Define "Agriculture" in the Laws Establishing the

ONTP

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
KNEELAND	ONTP	_
MCKEE		

LD 1379 proposed to define "agriculture" in the laws establishing the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to mean all types of farming including the production of horticultural commodities.

LD 1424 An Act to Require State Parks to Honor the Golden Access Passport

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
SNOWE-MELLO
YOUNGBLOOD

Committee Report ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1424 proposed giving free entrance to any state-owned park, camping area or beach to a Maine resident holding a valid Golden Access Passport. The "Golden Access Passport," available to United States citizens or permanent residents who are blind or permanently disabled, provides free entrance to most federal recreation areas.

LD 1425 An Act to Establish a Fund for Marketing and Improvements in Agricultural Fairs CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
WINSOR		

LD 1425 proposes to make improvement grants available to help agricultural fairs develop comprehensive long-term marketing plans. The grants would be limited to improvements and upgrades to internal roadway, drainage, waste and potable water systems and power distribution systems necessary to expand an agricultural fair. Marketing efforts and major capital improvements would be eligible for funding.