

# 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](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*  
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## Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 174 prohibits the labeling or advertising of water as "Maine water" or "from Maine" unless the water is from a natural source in the State.

**LD 1358**

**An Act to Require Truth in Advertising of Natural Water**

**PUBLIC 283**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MARTIN<br>COWGER  | OTP-AM                  | S-135                     |

LD 1358 proposed to prohibit adding any additive, chemical or other substance to water for sale that is advertised or labeled as "natural."

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-135)** proposed to replace the bill and require that water sold in the State in containers and intended for human consumption must identify the location of the water body, well or public water supply from which the water was obtained.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 283 requires that water sold in the State in containers and intended for human consumption must identify the location of the water body, well or public water supply from which the water was obtained.

**LD 1398**

**An Act to Create a Sprawl Offset Tax**

**ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LEMOINE           | ONTP                    |                           |

LD 1398 proposed to establish a tax on the installation of new subsurface wastewater disposal systems in locations that were not included within a growth area designated by a municipality as part of a comprehensive planning process. The tax was equal to \$750 per toilet installed in residential facilities and \$1,000 per toilet installed in other facilities. The tax would be paid to the municipal plumbing inspector before a permit could be issued. The municipality retained 10% of the revenue to cover its collection costs. The remaining 90% of revenue was sent to the State and the net amount deposited 1/2 in the Municipal Investment Trust Fund to assist municipalities with public infrastructure improvements and downtown development and 1/2 in the Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund to support affordable housing.