

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry*

May 2002

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120th Legislature
Second Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 2002

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 organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name and within committees by bill (LD) number.

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:

- 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
PASSED..... Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is July 25, 2002.

Patrick T. Norton, Interim Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

LD 1425

An Act to Establish a Fund for Marketing and Improvements in Agricultural Fairs

ONTP

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

LD 1425, a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposed to make improvement grants available to help agricultural fairs develop a comprehensive long-term marketing plan. The grants would have been for capital improvements and upgrades to internal roadway, drainage, waste and potable water systems and power distribution systems necessary to expand an agricultural fair. The grants could also have been used for marketing.

LD 1516

An Act to Support Family Farms

P & S 74

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TREAT MCKEE	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-424 S-581 GOLDTHWAIT

LD 1516 proposed appropriating funds to establish an additional Senior Planner position within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. This position would provide various outreach, planning and research functions for state farmers.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-424) proposed the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. It proposed that the additional Senior Planner position be established in the Division of Market and Production Development rather than the office of the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-581) proposed reducing the full-time Senior Planner position to 25 hours per week and providing funding for dues for membership in the Northeastern States Association for Agricultural Stewardship.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 74 appropriates funds to establish a 25 hours-per-week Senior Planner position within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. The Senior Planner will provide financial and estate planning to farmers, and outreach and assistance in bringing agricultural projects before the Land for Maine's Future Board. This additional position will also provide resources to the department to establish baseline information on farmland values. Chapter 74 also provides funding for dues for membership in the Northeastern States Association for Agricultural Stewardship.