

# 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*

**Staff:**

*Patrick T. Norton, Principal Analyst  
Susan Z. Johannesman, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
13 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670*

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**Maine State Legislature**  
**OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013  
 Telephone: (207) 287-1670  
 Fax: (207) 287-1275

**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 Natural Resources

standard applied a balancing test, weighing the difficulty for the property owner in complying with the strict terms of the zoning ordinance against the detriment to the integrity of the zoning ordinance or the negative impact on the neighborhood if the variance was granted.

**LD 1601**                      **An Act to Authorize the Construction of Public Trails in Shoreland Areas**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 1601 proposed to amend the shoreland zoning ordinance guidelines to provide for the construction of public pathways for recreational public nonmotorized uses such as biking, walking and skiing so long as those pathways met certain construction criteria.

**LD 1643**                      **An Act to Provide Criteria for the Municipal Use of Rate of Growth CARRIED OVER Ordinances**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAIGLE MARTIN		

LD 1643 proposes to outline the parameters within which a municipality may adopt a growth rate ordinance. Under the proposal, temporary growth rate ordinances may be enacted only to slow development while a community works toward solving the problems necessitating the growth rate ordinance. A permanent growth rate ordinance may be enacted only as part of an integrated growth management strategy and also may be used in designated rural areas as a mechanism to guide growth within a community. The bill also proposes to clarify that a municipality with a comprehensive plan may implement a growth rate ordinance in its rural area only.

LD 1643 was carried over to the Second Regular Session.

**LD 1665**                      **An Act to Further Reduce Mercury Emissions from Consumer Products**                      **PUBLIC 373**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUPLESSIE MARTIN	OTP-AM    MAJ OTP-AM    MIN	H-417 H-471    COWGER S-247    MARTIN

LD 1665 proposed to reduce the release of mercury into the environment from consumer products by:

1. Requiring manufacturers to notify the Department of Environmental Protection if they intend to distribute a mercury-added product in Maine;