

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
120th Legislature*

*Second Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Natural Resources*

*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 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 arranged alphabetically by committee name 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:

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**  
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## Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources

an application that sought authority for a facility to accept municipal solid waste if the facility was not currently allowed to accept municipal solid waste would obtain a determination of public benefit. The amendment also proposed that the department should employ a rebuttable presumption of public benefit for certain solid waste facilities.

This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill. This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 2014**

### **An Act to Stabilize Funding for the Air Quality Program within the Department of Environmental Protection**

**ONTP**

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

LD 2014 proposed to increase revenue to the air quality program within the Department of Environmental Protection to compensate for lost fees associated with emission reductions and facility closures and to offset increases in the costs incurred to administer the air quality program. Funds would be used to maintain existing levels of operation and service within the air quality program including ongoing maintenance of the ambient air quality monitoring network.

It also proposed to provide funds for an Environmental Specialist III limited-period position for the development of a greenhouse gas registry.

**LD 2016**

### **An Act to Facilitate Compliance with Spill Prevention Requirements and Authorize Reimbursement for Certain Oil Spill Remediation Expenses**

**PUBLIC 605**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRABTREE YOUNGBLOOD	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-945

LD 2016 proposed to eliminate avoidable and inappropriate disbursements from the state Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund by:

1. Improving compliance with state and federal regulatory requirements that reduce the risk of spills from aboveground oil storage tanks; and
2. Authorizing reimbursement to the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund of spill clean-up costs that are covered by private insurance required under the federal Motor Carrier Act.

Under this bill, owners of aboveground oil storage facilities are required to certify, on the annual chemical inventory reporting form submitted to the Maine Emergency Response Commission, that underground piping at the facility meets existing state regulatory requirements and that the facility meets existing federal regulatory requirements for preparation and maintenance of a spill prevention control and countermeasure plan. The latter requirements are incorporated into state law so that they can be enforced by the Department of Environmental Protection. It also