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

Members:

Sen. Richard Kneeland, Chair Sen. John M. 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 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).

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	
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCEOne is	body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	
EMERGENCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASS	AGE Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE	
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	
OTP ND/NT	
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED	
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.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-890), the minority report of the committee, proposed specifying that the required description of management envisioned for a property would be for the 10-year period following acquisition.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 564 requires a person submitting a proposal for funding from the Land for Maine's Future Fund or the Public Access to Maine Waters Fund to provide information on the anticipated management of the property for the 10 year period following acquisition and costs associated with the management of the property and monitoring for compliance with easements acquired.

It requires the Director of the Bureau of Forestry within the Department of Conservation to include information on changes in ownership of forest land and parcel size in the biennial state of the forest report using information available from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services and information reported to the bureau by municipalities.

It requires the Bureau of Revenue Services to report on land transfers of parcels 10,000 acres and greater in the unorganized territory. It requires the State Tax Assessor to report annually to the Bureau of Forestry on the number of parcels in the unorganized territory taxed under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law with a breakdown by parcel size categories.

It requires the State Tax Assessor to report annually on the number of landowners owning 500 acres or more of commercial forestland, including a breakdown of the number of landowners by acreage categories.

LD 2111

An Act to Authorize County Extension Building Associations to Borrow Money

PUBLIC 594

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
SKOGLUND	OTP-AM	H-943
KILKELLY		H-969 MCKEE

LD 2111 proposed authorizing a county extension building association to borrow money.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-943) proposed replacing the original bill to revise the statutory structure of the provisions and to correct a cross-reference.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-969) proposed adding language to clarify that a county building association is a political subdivision of the State and tax exempt.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2002, chapter 594 authorizes a county extension building association to borrow money and clarifies that building associations have tax exempt status.