

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

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
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 | 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 Natural Resources

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-1074) proposed to remove the requirement that one of the members appointed by the Speaker of the House be a member of the political party that did not hold a majority of the seats in the House of Representatives.

LD 2208

An Act Allowing for a Public Hearing Process for Certain Actions
Relating to Dams

ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| | ONTP | MAJ | |
| | OTP | MIN | |

LD 2208 proposed to amend existing authority of the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to hold water level hearings and establish water levels by extending that authority to approximately 2 dozen dams in the State that were operating with a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission exemption. The bill also proposed to require the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to hold a public hearing when a dam was proposed to be abandoned or removed.