

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
121st Legislature*

*Second Regular Session and  
Second Special Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry*

*May 2004*

**Members:**

*Sen. Bruce S. Bryant, Chair  
Sen. Richard Kneeland  
Sen. Edward M. Youngblood*

*Rep. Linda Rogers McKee, Chair  
Rep. Jacqueline A. Lundeen  
Rep. Raymond G. Pineau*

*Rep. John F. Piotti  
Rep. Nancy E. Smith  
Rep. Roderick W. Carr  
Rep. Ken Honey  
Rep. Eugene L. Churchill  
Rep. Kenneth C. Fletcher  
Rep. John Eder*

**Staff:**

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*Maine State Legislature*



*Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis  
Office Of Fiscal And Program Review*

*121st Maine Legislature  
Second Regular Session and  
Second Special Session*

*Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees*

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint 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/billsumm.htm](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla/billsumm.htm)).

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
- 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 that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is April 30, 2004; and non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Special Session is July 30, 2004. Four bills (LD's 1572, 1629, 1636 and 1637) that were considered at the First Special Session in August 2003 are also included in these summaries.

*David C. Elliott, Director*  
**Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building**

*Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry*

**LD 1902**

**An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Relating to the Review of Agencies under the State Government Evaluation Act**

**PUBLIC 578**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1902 proposed legislation developed by the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry during its review of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the Baxter State Park Authority under the Government Evaluation Act.

***Enacted Law Summary***

Public Law 2003, chapter 578 is the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry upon completion of review of agencies submitting Government Evaluation Reports to the 121<sup>st</sup> Legislature. Chapter 578 establishes future report dates for agencies reviewed by the committee this session and deletes a reference to the recently abolished State Soil and Water Conservation Commission. It also does the following:

1. It removes employees of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources from the Pull Events Commission and provides for the agricultural fair coordinator within the department to serve as secretary to the commission.
2. It establishes a separate dedicated account to receive seed certification and inspection fees and other funds received in support of a state seed certification and inspection program.
3. It allows loans from the Agricultural Marketing Loan Fund to be used to improve pastureland.
4. It directs the Baxter State Park Authority to report in 2006 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over parks and public lands on the implementation of the rolling reservation system for Baxter State Park.

**LD 1942**

**Resolve, Authorizing Certain Land Transactions by the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands**

**RESOLVE 137**

Sponsor(s)

BRYANT  
HATCH PR

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

S-508

LD 1942 proposed authorizing the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to convey property or interests in property at 6 locations described in the resolve.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-508)** proposed revising language in the resolve that authorized conveyance of lots on First Roach Pond to correct the name of the association of leaseholders, better describe and identify the lots and allow the transfer to either the First Roach Pond Leaseholders Coalition or its individual members. It proposed