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

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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).

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:

	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
	y accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
	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	Bill Indefinitely PostponedOught Not To Pass report accepted
OTP-ND	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
P&S XXX	
PASSED	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public LawChapter # of finally passed ResolveBill held by Governor
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.

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Chapter 648 directs the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to develop a course of action for implementing other recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on the Sustainability of the Dairy Industry in Maine presented in the task force's report dated November 18, 2003. It also requires the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters to review the price support provisions enacted by chapter 648 and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to implement the committee's recommendations regarding each program. The bills are authorized for submission to the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature. Public Law 2003, chapter 648 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 16, 2004.

LD 1947

Resolve, To Clarify Title to Land Related to the Waldo-Hancock Bridge Replacement

RESOLVE 141

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MARLEY	OTP	_
HATCH PH		

This resolve proposed authorizing the transfer of management responsibility for a small portion of Fort Knox State Historic Site by the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to the Department of Transportation.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2003, chapter 141 authorizes the transfer of management responsibility for a small portion of Fort Knox State Historic Site by the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to the Department of Transportation for the purpose of constructing and maintaining a portion of the Waldo-Hancock Bridge replacement. It also confirms that portions of State Route 174 and U.S. Route 1 that cross Fort Knox State Park were constructed, and are occupied and maintained for highway purposes. The area subject to this transfer of management responsibility is approximately 5 acres, approximately 4.75 acres of which is currently occupied by State Route 174 and U.S. Route 1. No funds will be exchanged in connection with this transfer.

LD 1952 An Act to Regulate the Breeding and Sale of Small Mammals

PUBLIC 642

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
		H-851

LD 1952 was the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry authorized under Public Law 2003, chapter 350. It proposed directing the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to adopt rules concerning the breeding and sale of small mammals, including guinea pigs, hamsters and rabbits.

House Amendment "A" (H-851) proposed clarifying that the rules authorized by this bill apply only to breeders and sellers of small mammals who are not currently licensed or regulated by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.