MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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State Of Maine 122nd Legislature

First Regular Session and First Special Session

Bill Summaries

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

August 2005

Members:

Sen. John M. Nutting, Chair Sen. Bruce S. Bryant Sen. Kevin L. Raye

Rep. John F. Piotti, Chair Rep. Jacqueline A. Lundeen Rep. Raymond G. Pineau Rep. Joanne T. Twomey Rep. Rodney C. Jennings Rep. Roderick W. Carr Rep. Arlan R. Jodrey Rep. Roger L. Sherman Rep. Patrick S. A. Flood Rep. Donald G. Marean

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Maine State Legislature



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122nd Legislature First Regular Session and First Special Session

Summary of Legislation Considered by the Joint Standing Committees August 2005

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 organized by committees 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. A subject index for each committee is included immediately before the bill summaries for that committee, and a numerical index by LD number is included at the back of the document. A separate publication, <u>History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents</u>, 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:

CARRIED OVER	Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session
CON RES XXX	Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE	
	House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE One be	ody 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 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	
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PUBLIC XXX	
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is *June 29, 2005*; and for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session is *September 17, 2005*.

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 134 defines a "large-scale project" under the submerged lands leasing program and excludes such projects from the \$1,200 cap on annual rents. It requires the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to adopt rules establishing criteria for determining when a project is a "large-scale project" and criteria for establishing rent for those projects. It allows the director to make determinations until the rules are adopted and in effect. It amends the statutory definition of "submerged lands" and provides that the State's submerged lands extend 3 nautical miles seaward to the boundary of "territorial waters."

LD 640 An Act To Recognize the Importance of Forestry

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
SAVIELLO	_	_
NUTTING J		

LD 640 proposes statutory language stating that forest industry is of significant economic and social importance to the State. This bill was carried over by H.P. 1203 to the next special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature.

LD 649

An Act To Provide Access to Maine's Resources to Certain Veterans

PUBLIC 268 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
BRYANT B	OTP-AM	MAJ	S-197
BRYANT M	ONTP	MIN	

LD 649 proposed recognizing Maine veterans of the Iraq War who have served a minimum of 90 days by giving them a free one-year pass to state parks and free hunting and fishing licenses.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-197) proposed replacing the bill with directives to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management and authorization for the issuance of free day use passes and free hunting licenses and fishing licenses to certain veterans.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 268 directs the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Conservation for the issuance of free day use passes to certain veterans and to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the issuance of free hunting licenses and fishing licenses to certain veterans. It establishes criteria for eligibility to receive the free pass and licenses. The provisions for the complimentary pass and licenses are repealed June 30, 2010. Public Law 2005, chapter 268 was enacted as an emergency measure with an effective date of June 2, 2005.