

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry*

July 2006

Members:

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

*Rep. John F. Piotti, Chair
Rep. Jacqueline A. Lundeen
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
Rep. Peter Edgecomb*

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Maine State Legislature



Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Office of Fiscal and Program Review

122nd Maine Legislature Second Regular 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 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:

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 (Pocket Veto).....	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 August 23, 2006.

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

LD 1985

An Act To Make Revisions to the Maine Revised Statutes Relating to Agricultural Fairs

PUBLIC 563

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-825 H-928 PIOTTI

LD 1985 proposed repealing the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7, chapter 3, "County and Local Societies," and replacing it with chapter 4, "Agricultural Fairs and Pulling Events." It proposed definitions, removing obsolete provisions and restructures provisions for clarity. It proposed revisions to update and facilitate the administration and enforcement of laws governing agricultural fairs and pulling events.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-825) proposed minor language changes for clarity, correcting a cross-reference, and revising a provision relating to premiums paid on male animals.

House Amendment "A" (H-928) proposed a correction to the definition and use of the term "event." This amendment also proposed allowing agricultural fair licensees that held an extended meet in 2005 to qualify for distribution from the fund to supplement harness racing purses based on the total number of race dashes conducted. (See the bill summary for LD 2042. LD 2042 proposed the same language as this amendment and was enacted as emergency legislation)

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 563 repeals the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7, chapter 3, "County and Local Societies," and replaces it with chapter 4, "Agricultural Fairs and Pulling Events." It enacts definitions for this chapter and deletes provisions relating to the Maine State Pomological Society and poultry associations. It establishes the Fair Fund and clarifies provisions for deposit into and distribution from the fund. It requires a fair to be licensed to be eligible to receive a distribution from the Stipend Fund or the Fair Fund. It removes language relating to the licensing of exhibitions that are not agricultural fairs. It amends the provision for requesting a change in fair dates to require a petition to be received a minimum of 90 days prior to the first assigned date. It allows premiums paid on pony pulling and tractor and truck pulling to be included when determining distribution from the Stipend Fund or the Fair Fund. It revises a provision relating to premiums paid on male animals, making a fair licensee ineligible for a stipend if that licensee offers or pays premiums on unaltered male animals over 6 months of age that are not recorded in the books of record for their breed. It restructures and updates other provisions regarding the licensing of agricultural fairs and distribution of funds to the fairs. It restructures and makes technical changes to the laws governing animal pulling events.