

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

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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

dashes at an extended meet that are counted in calculating distribution, however, may not exceed the number of dashes conducted at the extended meet in 2005.

Public Law 2005, chapter 576 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 12, 2006.

LD 2065 **An Act To Implement Recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Regarding Pesticide Registration** **PUBLIC 585**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
		OTP-AM		H-944

LD 2065 proposed the committee report of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry following review of the Board of Pesticides Control under the Government Evaluation Act. The bill proposed increasing the registration fee for pesticides from \$125 to \$150. Registration fees are deposited in a dedicated revenue account to support the board and its staff in meeting their statutory duties.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-944) proposed directing the Board of Pesticides Control within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to advertise and conduct collections of obsolete or illegal pesticides in May and October of 2007.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 585 increases the registration fee for pesticides from \$125 to \$150. Registration fees are deposited in a dedicated revenue account to support the board and its staff in meeting their statutory duties. Chapter 585 also directs the Board of Pesticides Control within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to advertise and conduct collections of obsolete or illegal pesticides in May and October of 2007.

LD 2077 **An Act To Make Adjustments to the Allagash Wilderness Waterway** **PUBLIC 598**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN		OTP-AM MAJ		S-559
JACKSON		ONTP MIN		

LD 2077 proposed requiring the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands to submit any changes to the Allagash Wilderness Waterway Management Plan, as developed and implemented in 1999, to the Legislature for approval. This bill proposed designating the Henderson Brook Bridge as an approved watercourse crossing and recognizing the bridge as a vital link in the region, worthy of maintenance, repair and, if necessary, replacement. This bill proposed requiring the bureau to maintain certain campsites and access points as provided in the 1999 management plan.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-559) proposed listing in statute the locations of access points and permanent watercourse crossings within the Allagash Wilderness Waterway. The amendment proposed prohibitions on bridge construction at certain sites and extinguishing private rights for additional crossings. The amendment also proposed directing the Bureau of Parks and Lands to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

having jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and forestry matters by January 15, 2007 on proposed changes to the 1999 plan and authorizing the committee to report out legislation. The amendment also proposed a 15-member commission to study the design for a replacement of the existing Henderson Brook Bridge within the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 598 establishes in statute the locations of motor vehicle access points to the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, requires that there be 19 snowmobile access points to the watercourse and lists the 6 permanent watercourse crossings in the waterway. Chapter 598 prohibits any future construction of bridges at the sites of the former Bissonette Bridge and Schedule Brook Bridge. The Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands is directed to identify any person claiming to have the right to construct or maintain a bridge at points within the waterway other than those specified in statute and to make all efforts to acquire those rights on behalf of the State, at which time those rights would be extinguished.

Chapter 598 includes legislative findings of fact that the Henderson Brook Bridge is a vital link to the Town of Allagash and the surrounding areas, providing access for timber harvesting operations, enhancing employment for the residents of the region and providing recreational activities. It directs the Bureau of Parks and Lands to submit its proposed amendments to the 1999 Allagash Wilderness Waterway management plan to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and forestry matters by January 15, 2007 for review. The bureau may proceed with improvements proposed in the plan that were begun prior to the effective date of this Act, but may not begin any other improvements proposed in the plan until the committee completes its review. Following its review of the plan, the committee is authorized to report out a bill on any matter relating to the management of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

Chapter 598 also creates a 15-member commission to study the design for a replacement of the existing Henderson Brook Bridge within the Allagash Wilderness Waterway. The commission is required to submit a preliminary report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by November 1, 2006 and to submit its final report by January 15, 2007.

LD 2081

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Relating to the Seed Potato Board

P & S 67

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report
OTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 2081 proposed appropriating \$30,000 to the Seed Potato Board for equipment needed at the Porter Seed Farm in Masardis. This bill originated in the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. It was referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.