

# 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*

**Staff:**

*Jill Ippoliti, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
13 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670*

# 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](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 (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*

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**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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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.

## *Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry*

### *Enacted law summary*

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 67 appropriates \$30,000 to the Seed Potato Board for equipment needed at the Porter Seed Farm in Masardis.

**LD 2083**                      **An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Relating to Review of the Department of Conservation**                      **PUBLIC 550 EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report  
OTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 2083 proposed the committee report of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry following review of the Department of Conservation under the Government Evaluation Act. It proposed extending authorization for the Bureau of Forestry to study the feasibility of implementing an outcome-based forestry policy. It proposed requiring the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to review the bureau's rent structure for leasing submerged. This bill also proposed establishing the next review date for agencies reviewed by the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry under the State Government Evaluation Act.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2005, chapter 550 is the committee report of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to the committee's review of the Department of Conservation under the Government Evaluation Act. It extends authorization for the Bureau of Forestry to study the feasibility of implementing an outcome-based forestry policy by changing the statutory repeal date for these provisions from July 1, 2006 to July 1, 2007. It requires the Director of the Bureau of Forestry to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forestry matters by January 2, 2007 with a recommendation regarding continuing authorization for outcome-based forestry. It authorizes the committee to report out legislation to the 123rd Legislature.

Chapter 550 requires the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to review the bureau's rent structure for leasing submerged lands and to report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public lands by January 2, 2007.

Public Law 2005, chapter 550 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 6, 2006.