

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

July 2007

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STATE OF MAINE

123RD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

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 (or Accepted ONTP report).....	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.....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

LD 21 Resolve, To Provide Access for Persons with Disabilities to Great Ponds

RESOLVE 22

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PINEAU	OTP-AM	H-82

LD 21 directs the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to develop a plan to provide access for persons with disabilities to ponds that are 10 acres or greater and to submit that plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by January 3, 2008.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-82)

The committee amendment directs the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to examine the distribution of great ponds with access for persons with disabilities and to develop priorities for increasing the number and providing an appropriate geographic distribution of ponds with adequate access for people with disabilities. The 2 departments are required to report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by January 3, 2008.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 22 directs the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to examine the distribution of great ponds with access for persons with disabilities and to develop priorities for increasing the number and providing an appropriate geographic distribution of ponds with adequate access for people with disabilities. The 2 departments are required to report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by January 3, 2008.

LD 25 An Act To Change the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission's Lot Size, Coverage and Setback Requirements for Some Affordable Housing Lots on Coastal Islands

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKANE	ONTP	

LD 25 directs the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission to adopt dimensional standards for affordable housing on certain coastal islands. It allows affordable housing to be denser than other residential development with reduced setbacks, smaller lot sizes and larger maximum lot coverage standards. These standards apply only on islands under Maine Land Use Regulation Commission jurisdiction where at least half of the island's land area is protected for conservation purposes. If the island is a municipality or plantation, the governing body for that municipality or plantation must approve the designation of an area as appropriate for affordable housing.

LD 57 Resolve, To Develop and Promote Enhanced Humane Livestock Handling and Slaughtering Practices

RESOLVE 10

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIEH	OTP-AM	H-43

LD 57 prohibits slaughtering livestock in sight of other livestock. This prohibition becomes effective January 1, 2009 and applies to custom and commercial slaughterhouses. The bill also amends the statutes governing the

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

distribution of grants from the agricultural development fund to specify that the fund may be used to modify slaughterhouse facilities to comply with statutory provisions for humane slaughter. The bill also directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to give priority in the next 2 grant cycles to applicants proposing to modify slaughterhouses to comply with the prohibition.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-43)

This amendment changes the bill to a resolve directing the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to conduct a workshop and develop guidelines for enhanced voluntary humane livestock handling and slaughtering practices.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 10 directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to conduct a workshop and develop guidelines for enhanced voluntary humane livestock handling and slaughtering practices. It authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature. It also directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to give priority to applicants to the Agricultural Development Fund who are seeking funding to modify or construct slaughterhouse facilities to implement the guidelines for enhanced humane handling and slaughtering practices.

LD 145 An Act To Include Undeveloped Archeological Sites in the Acquisition Criteria for the Land for Maine's Future Fund

PUBLIC 64

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SOCTOMAH	OTP-AM	H-44

LD 145 requires at least 5% of the Land for Maine's Future Fund to be allocated for the purchase of archeological sites.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-44)

This amendment replaces the bill. It amends the criteria for determining eligibility for funding from the Land for Maine's Future Fund to specifically include undeveloped archeological sites.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 64 amends the criteria for determining eligibility for funding from the Land for Maine's Future Fund to specifically include undeveloped archeological sites.

LD 185 An Act To Prohibit Certain Uses of Monosodium Glutamate

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ANNIS SHERMAN	ONTP	

LD 185 prohibits persons selling, offering for sale or serving in any retail store, hotel, restaurant or other public eating place any food or food product from directly adding monosodium glutamate to the food being sold or served. It also changes labeling requirements for food that contains monosodium glutamate.