

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**STATE OF MAINE**  
126<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

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

July 2013

**STAFF:**

CHRISTOPHER J. SPRUCE, LEGISLATIVE  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. TROY D. JACKSON, CHAIR  
SEN. JAMES A. BOYLE  
SEN. ROGER L. SHERMAN

REP. JAMES F. DILL, CHAIR  
REP. PETER S. KENT  
REP. CRAIG V. HICKMAN  
REP. BRIAN L. JONES  
REP. WILLIAM F. NOON  
REP. ROBERT J. SAUCIER  
REP. DEAN A. CRAY  
REP. DONALD G. MAREAN  
REP. RUSSELL J. BLACK  
REP. JEFFREY L. TIMBERLAKE

# STATE OF MAINE

126<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION



## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 126<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD 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 LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

*CARRIED OVER* ..... carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature  
*CON RES XXX*..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses  
*CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*.....Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died  
*DIED BETWEEN HOUSES*.....House & Senate disagreed; legislation died  
*DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died  
*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died  
*EMERGENCY*..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment  
*FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE* ..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote  
*FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... failed to receive final majority vote  
*FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT* ..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote  
*HELD BY GOVERNOR*..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session  
*LEAVE TO WITHDRAW*..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY* ..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died  
*INDEF PP*..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died  
*ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X*... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died  
*P&S XXX*..... chapter # of enacted private & special law  
*PUBLIC XXX*.....chapter # of enacted public Law  
*RESOLVE XXX*..... chapter # of finally passed resolve  
*VETO SUSTAINED*..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature is October 9, 2013. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

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

Conservation and Forestry governing facilities and sanitary processes used by small poultry producers and establishes certain labeling requirements. The 2nd category is for poultry producers that slaughter and process more than 999 and fewer than 2,000 birds annually on the farm where the poultry are raised and that meet similar sales and licensing requirements. Under this bill, these producers would not be exempt from the rules governing facilities and sanitary processes used by small poultry producers.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-476)**

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. It creates a registration category for poultry producers that are exempt from inspection under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 2512. The registration category is an alternative to licensing under Title 22, section 2514 and is available to custom slaughterers, custom processors and producers that process fewer than 1,000 birds annually. The amendment also allows a poultry producer that processes fewer than 20,000 birds annually to slaughter that producer's own poultry without an inspector being present during slaughtering as long as the producer meets certain criteria related to licensing, state food processing rules, sanitary standards, sales and labeling. The amendment also creates a small enterprise exemption that allows a business to slaughter, dress and cut up poultry without an inspector being present during processing if that business meets certain criteria related to licensing, state food processing rules, sanitary standards, sales and labeling.

### **House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-497)**

This amendment expresses the intent of the Legislature that the current meat and poultry inspection program be maintained while allowing for maximum flexibility.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 323 creates a registration category for poultry producers who are exempt from inspection under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 2512. The registration category is an alternative to licensing under Title 22, section 2514 and is available to custom slaughterers, custom processors and producers that process fewer than 1,000 birds annually. Public Law 2013, chapter 323 also allows a poultry producer that processes fewer than 20,000 birds annually to slaughter that producer's own poultry without an inspector being present during slaughtering as long as the producer meets certain criteria related to licensing, state food processing rules, sanitary standards, sales and labeling. It also creates a small enterprise exemption that allows a business to slaughter, dress and cut up poultry without an inspector being present during processing if that business meets certain criteria related to licensing, state food processing rules, sanitary standards, sales and labeling. Public Law 2013, chapter 323 expresses the intent of the Legislature that the current meat and poultry inspection program be maintained while allowing for maximum flexibility.

**LD 259**

### **An Act To Allow a Person To Rent a Slaughterhouse for the Slaughtering and Processing of Poultry**

**PUBLIC 252**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TIMBERLAKE MASON G	OTP-AM	H-407

This bill allows a licensed slaughterhouse to contract with certain poultry producers for the rental of the slaughterhouse for the purposes of slaughtering poultry. The bill requires the renting producer's poultry to be slaughtered by the owner or operator of the slaughterhouse. It prohibits the poultry slaughtered and processed under the rental contract from being sold or transported for interstate commerce. The bill also requires certain information to be printed on labels of the poultry products produced for the renting producer. It also authorizes the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to adopt rules governing fees charged by licensed slaughterhouses for the rental of their facilities.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-407)**

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill and changes the title. It establishes a registration process for certain

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

poultry slaughterers and processors. The amendment allows a licensed or registered slaughterhouse to contract with certain poultry producers for the rental of the slaughterhouse for the purposes of slaughtering poultry. The amendment requires the renting producer's poultry to be slaughtered and processed by that producer. It prohibits the poultry slaughtered and processed under the rental contract from being sold or transported for interstate commerce. The amendment also requires certain information to be printed on the labels of the poultry products produced by the producer renting a licensed or registered slaughterhouse.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 252 establishes a registration process for certain poultry slaughterers and processors. It allows a licensed or registered slaughterhouse to contract with certain poultry producers for the rental of the slaughterhouse for the purposes of slaughtering poultry. Public Law 2013, chapter 252 requires the renting producer's poultry to be slaughtered and processed by that producer. It prohibits the poultry slaughtered and processed under the rental contract from being sold or transported for interstate commerce. The law also requires certain information to be printed on the labels of the poultry products produced by the producer renting a licensed or registered slaughterhouse.

**LD 262      An Act To Restore to Jimmy J. Soucy the Right To Maintain Existing Structures on Property in Sinclair      DIED BETWEEN HOUSES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T AYOTTE	ONTP OTP	

This bill specifies the permissible uses of certain property in Sinclair and structures on that property acquired by Jimmy J. Soucy in 2009 from the State of Maine.

**LD 269      An Act To Provide Increased Opportunities on the Allagash Wilderness Waterway      DIED BETWEEN HOUSES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T	OTP-AM ONTP	S-85

Current rules of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Division of Parks and Public Lands limit to 12 the number of members in a group that may travel on the Allagash watercourse or camp at Allagash Wilderness Waterway campsites. This bill increases the permissible size of a group to 24, beginning with the 2014 camping season. It also requires larger groups to separate into self-contained groups of 24 or fewer. The bill also gives the division the authority to permit groups composed of more than 24 persons.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-85)**

This amendment is the majority report. The amendment strikes and replaces the bill. Current rules of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Division of Parks and Public Lands limit to 12 the number of members in a group that may travel on the Allagash watercourse or camp at Allagash Wilderness Waterway campsites. This amendment proposes to retain that rule except for groups of up to 18 persons who limit their use of the watercourse to day use and who do not camp overnight. It also makes exceptions for school groups that notify the division at least 2 weeks in advance and travel on the watercourse and camp at waterway campsites under the direction of the waterway's superintendent or the superintendent's designee. The amendment also proposes to allow groups of up to 24 persons to access the waterway by snowmobile at locations that are currently allowed by rule. The majority report was not adopted.