

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

May 2014

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND
ENACTED LAWS

The *Digest* is arranged 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.

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 HOUSESHouse & 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
EMERGENCYenacted 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 Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature is August 1, 2014. 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

recommendation to continue, change or discontinue designated outcome-based forestry projects.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 542 replaces the term "experimental area" with "outcome-based forestry area" in the laws governing forestry practices. The law requires the Director of the Bureau of Forestry, within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to seek to designate outcome-based forestry areas of various sizes owned by different landowners. It explicitly authorizes the director to renew an outcome-based forestry agreement if all applicable requirements are met. The law provides that the term of a subsequent outcome-based forestry agreement may not exceed five years.

The law provides that the panel of technical experts, when conducting an assessment, may consider information provided by the Bureau of Forestry, the landowner or a third-party forest certification program auditor.

The law also adds forest health and economic and social considerations to the list of outcome-based forestry principles.

The law requires the Director of the Bureau of Forestry, in consultation with the technical panel, beginning March 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forestry matters detailing the progress on each outcome-based forestry agreement. The law also provides that when an initial outcome-based forestry agreement is approved by the Director of the Bureau of Forestry, the director is required to notify the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forestry matters within 15 days. In the notification, the director is required to address how the proposed agreement will provide at least the equivalent forest and environmental protection as provided by applicable rules and regulations.

The law provides that when an outcome-based forestry agreement is renewed, the director is required to notify the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forestry matters within 15 days. It also requires that reports, notifications and other information relating to outcome-based forestry projects must be placed on the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's publicly accessible website.

The law provides that the exemption for outcome-based forestry projects pertains to clear-cutting requirements only.

It also provides that the state of the State's forests report include a recommendation to continue, change or discontinue designated outcome-based forestry projects.

LD 1859

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Poultry Processing

PUBLIC 567

Sponsor(s)

DILL

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill was acted upon without reference to committee. This bill makes a technical correction by adding language to Title 22, section 2517-C, subsection 1 that was inadvertently omitted from Committee Amendment "A" to LD 218, An Act to Promote Small-scale Poultry Farming, in the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 567 makes a technical correction by adding language to Title 22, section 2517-C, subsection 1 that was inadvertently omitted from Committee Amendment "A" to LD 218, An Act to Promote Small-scale Poultry Farming, in the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.