MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

 132^{ND} Legislature First Regular and First Special Sessions



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

August 2025

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

LD 1323 Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control to Evaluate the Impact of Neonicotinoids on Pollinators, Humans and the Environment

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 69 requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control to study the impact of neonicotinoids, including neonicotinoid-treated seeds, on pollinators, humans and the environment. The law requires the board to solicit feedback regarding ideas and insights on the topic of the study from the public, stakeholders and interested parties through either a public hearing or a request for information document. The law also requires the board to submit a preliminary report by January 15, 2026 and a final report by January 15, 2027 with findings and recommendations relating to the subject matter of the study to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters.

LD 1450 An Act Regarding the Voluntary Municipal Farm Support Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 216 reduces the minimum term of a qualified easement for farm support arrangements from 20 years to 10 years and allows the municipal officers or a municipal employee or committee appointed by the municipal officers to review and approve farm support arrangements. The law also provides that rules adopted by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry under the Voluntary Municipal Farm Support Program statutes are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

LD 1525 An Act to Promote Firewood Banks in Maine

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 170 authorizes the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands to donate timber for use as firewood to a firewood bank if certain conditions are met. The law also directs the bureau to promote the development and public awareness of firewood banks in this State and to develop and dispense informational resources to promote the successful operation of firewood banks in this State. In fulfilling its obligations, the bureau may collaborate with the University of Maine System.

LD 1529 An Act to Enhance the Protection of High-value Natural Resources Statewide

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 481 provides that the Maine Land Use Planning Commission may not finalize a comprehensive land use plan under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 685-C,