

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

LD 1425 **An Act to Establish a Fund for Marketing and Improvements in Agricultural Fairs** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> WINSOR	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1425, a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposed to make improvement grants available to help agricultural fairs develop a comprehensive long-term marketing plan. The grants would have been for capital improvements and upgrades to internal roadway, drainage, waste and potable water systems and power distribution systems necessary to expand an agricultural fair. The grants could also have been used for marketing.

LD 1516 **An Act to Support Family Farms** **P & S 74**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TREAT MCKEE	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-424 S-581 GOLDTHWAIT
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LD 1516 proposed appropriating funds to establish an additional Senior Planner position within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. This position would provide various outreach, planning and research functions for state farmers.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-424) proposed the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. It proposed that the additional Senior Planner position be established in the Division of Market and Production Development rather than the office of the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-581) proposed reducing the full-time Senior Planner position to 25 hours per week and providing funding for dues for membership in the Northeastern States Association for Agricultural Stewardship.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 74 appropriates funds to establish a 25 hours-per-week Senior Planner position within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. The Senior Planner will provide financial and estate planning to farmers, and outreach and assistance in bringing agricultural projects before the Land for Maine’s Future Board. This additional position will also provide resources to the department to establish baseline information on farmland values. Chapter 74 also provides funding for dues for membership in the Northeastern States Association for Agricultural Stewardship.

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

LD 1534 **An Act to Prohibit Grocery Stores From Charging Maine Farmers Access Fees, Slotting Fees and Rebates** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NUTTING J MCKEE	ONTP	

LD 1534 proposed excluding certain businesses from participating in the Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement (BETR) program. A storeowner would have been ineligible for reimbursement under BETR if the store grossed over \$200,000 per month in which at least 75% of the sales were grocery staples unless the business purchased produce from at least 75 farms in the State each year. The store would also have been ineligible for tax reimbursement if the store owner charged Maine farms a fee to carry the farm's product.

LD 1771 **Resolve, to Establish the Maine Cattle Health Assurance Program** **ONTP**

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

LD 1771 proposed requiring the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to develop and implement the Maine Cattle Health Assurance Program. The bill specified certain components of the program including the development of best management practices to promote dairy and beef farm profitability, animal health and food product safety and environmental quality; an on-site assessment; and an annual inspection and certification for participants in the program. The bill also proposed establishing a nonlapsing fund to receive public and private funding for the program. It would have required the department to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Regional Dairy Quality Management Alliance for the purpose of obtaining expertise from other states in New England and the mid-Atlantic region.

LD 1839 **Resolve, Authorizing the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to Lease a Certain Parcel of Land to the Federal Aviation Administration** **RESOLVE 71**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARR NUTTING J	OTP	

LD 1839 proposed authorizing the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands to lease 1/4 acre to the Federal Aviation Administration to continue to provide an outer marker light and compass locator elements for the airplane landing system for Northern Maine Regional Airport at Presque Isle.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2001, chapter 71 authorizes the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands to lease 1/4 acre to the Federal Aviation Administration to continue to provide an outer marker light and compass locator elements for the airplane landing system for Northern Maine Regional Airport at Presque Isle.

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

LD 1855

An Act to Clarify the Regulatory Authority of the Maine Forest Service Regarding Forestry-related Quarantines

PUBLIC 547

Sponsor(s)
NUTTING J
GOOLEY

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-446

LD 1855 proposed specifically authorizing the Director of the Maine Forest Service to address eradication of forest diseases and pests of foreign origin.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-446) proposed authorizing the Director of the Maine Forest Service to adopt rules to establish quarantines when a disease or insect infestation threatens forest trees or shade trees. It proposed allowing the director to order the destruction of trees and plant materials and requiring the director to consult with the landowner and owner of stumpage rights prior to ordering the destruction of condemned material.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 547 authorizes the Director of the Maine Forest Service to adopt rules to establish quarantines when a disease or insect infestation threatens forest trees or shade trees. It allows the director to order the destruction of trees and plant materials. It requires the director to consult with the landowner and owner of stumpage rights prior to ordering the destruction of condemned material.

LD 1905

An Act to Clarify the Status of Henderson Brook Bridge

P & S 58

Sponsor(s)
MICHAUD MH
BRUNO

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-471

LD 1905 proposed allowing Henderson Brook Bridge to be maintained as a permanent crossing of the Allagash River in substitution for the potential reconstruction of Schedule Brook Bridge. In exchange, all rights to build or maintain a bridge at Schedule Brook would have been extinguished.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-471) proposed replacing the original bill and changing its title. It proposed allowing Henderson Brook Bridge to remain and be repaired pending the Department of Conservation's review of its 1999 Allagash Wilderness Waterway Management Plan.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 58 allows Henderson Brook Bridge to remain and be repaired pending the Department of Conservation's review of its 1999 Allagash Wilderness Waterway Management Plan. If, upon completion of the review, the department concludes that the bridge should not remain in use, the department must report that decision to the Legislature.

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

LD 1918

An Act to Amend the Integrated Pest Management Laws

PUBLIC 497

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KNEELAND MCKEE	OTP-AM	S-413

LD 1918 proposed establishing the Integrated Pest Management Council to facilitate, promote, expand and enhance the adoption of integrated pest management in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-413) proposed prohibiting the deposit of General Fund money into the Integrated Pest Management Fund.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 497 establishes the Integrated Pest Management Council to facilitate, promote, expand and enhance the adoption of integrated pest management in the State. It prohibits the deposit of General Fund money into the Integrated Pest Management Fund.

LD 1920

An Act to Address Liquidation Harvesting

PUBLIC 603

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KILKELLY NASS	OTP-AM	S-488

LD 1920 proposed requiring a landowner harvesting land enrolled under the Tree Growth Tax Law to include on the harvest notification form a statement that the harvest is consistent with the forest management and harvest plan. It proposed clarifying that a change of land use indicated on a harvest notification form constitutes a withdrawal from taxation under the Tree Growth Tax Law. It proposed exempting forestland that is certified by a 3rd-party certification organization as being well-managed from the management plan requirements of the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law. It proposed requiring a person who buys land taxed under Tree Growth Tax Law to have a forest management and harvest plan prepared before harvesting forest products on that land. It proposed requiring the Maine Forest Service to report back to the Legislature in 2005 on the impacts of this legislation on liquidation harvesting.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-488) proposed to do the following:

1. Require the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Forestry to notify tax assessors of actions requiring changes in status under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law.
2. Make it a civil violation to provide inaccurate information on a harvest notification form.
3. Remove provisions in the original bill relating to evidence of 3rd-party certification in place of a management plan.
4. Clarify the duties of a new landowner and allowing a new owner to continue managing in accordance with the previous owner's plan.

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5. Authorize the Bureau of Forestry to provide assistance to a municipal assessor or the State Tax Assessor in evaluating management plans and determining compliance with a plan.
6. Specifically stating in statute that, upon request, a landowner must allow a tax assessor to see a copy of a forest management and harvest plan prepared for land enrolled under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law and that the plan is confidential and not a public record.
7. Direct the Bureau of Forestry to provide information on the practice of liquidation harvesting in its biennial report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forestry matters and to provide the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over tax matters with copies of the 2003 report on the state of the State's forests.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 603 requires a landowner harvesting land enrolled under the Tree Growth Tax Law to include on the harvest notification form a statement that the harvest is consistent with the forest management and harvest plan. It clarifies that a change of land use indicated on a harvest notification form constitutes a withdrawal from taxation under the Tree Growth Tax Law. It requires the Director of the Bureau of Forestry to notify tax assessors of actions requiring changes in status under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law.

It requires a person who buys land taxed under Tree Growth Tax Law to file a statement indicating that a new forest management and harvest plan has been prepared or a statement from a licensed forester that the land is being managed in accordance with the plan prepared for the previous owner. It requires one of the 2 statements to be filed within one year of the land transfer. A new landowner is prohibited from harvesting prior to filing the statement. It makes it a civil violation to provide inaccurate information on a harvest notification form.

It authorizes the Bureau of Forestry to provide assistance to a municipal assessor or the State Tax Assessor in evaluating management plans and determining compliance with a plan. It specifically states that, upon request, a landowner must allow a tax assessor to see a copy of a forest management and harvest plan prepared for land enrolled under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law and states that the plan is confidential and not a public record. When the assessor requests assistance of the Bureau of Forestry, the plan must also be available to the Director of the Bureau of Forestry or the director's designee.

It directs the Bureau of Forestry to provide information on the practice of liquidation harvesting in its biennial report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forestry matters and to provide the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over tax matters with copies of the 2003 report on the state of the State's forests.

LD 1922

An Act Concerning Rules of the Bureau of Parks and Lands

PUBLIC 604

Sponsor(s)
KILKELLY
CARR

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-480

LD 1922 proposed consolidating rule-making authority for facilities and lands under the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands' general authority and establishing that violations of rules adopted by the

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bureau are civil violations, unless the offense is designated in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, chapter 220 as a Class E crime.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-480) proposed several technical changes and clarifications to the original bill. It also proposed repealing sections of law in various subchapters administered by the Bureau of Parks and Lands to avoid duplicating language in the general provisions for the bureau.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 604 consolidates rule-making authority for facilities and lands under the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands' general authority. It establishes that violations of rules adopted by the bureau are civil violations. It designates certain actions within the jurisdiction of the bureau as Class E crimes. It clarifies that the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands may authorize employees to issue summonses or to make arrests. It requires the Director to notify the joint standing committee having jurisdiction over parks and lands prior to adopting a policy authorizing employees to make arrests.

LD 1951

An Act to Amend the Pulling Events Laws

**PUBLIC 668
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PINEAU KNEELAND	OTP-AM	H-898 S-571 GOLDTHWAIT

LD 1951 proposed increasing the permit fee for pulling events from \$10 to \$20 per pull day and increasing the maximum permit fee for pulls held on consecutive days from \$50 to \$100.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-898) proposed replacing the bill and changing its title. It proposed a new fee structure for permits to conduct pulling events and proposed requiring that the fees be deposited in a nonlapsing account. It proposed other changes to the statutes governing pulling.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-571) proposed adding an emergency preamble and an emergency clause.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 668 provides a new fee structure for permits to conduct pulling events and requires that the fees be deposited in a nonlapsing account. It removes the reference in statute to a specific type of tape for a goad stick. It provides for one member of the Pull Events Commission to be appointed by the Animal Welfare Advisory Council. It clarifies the reporting process and enforcement actions for violations of the laws and rules governing pulling events. Chapter 668 was enacted as emergency legislation with an effective date of April 11, 2002.

Public Law 2001, chapter 668 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 11, 2002.

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An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Pesticide Control to Increase

PUBLIC 498

<u>(s)</u> LUNDEEN KILKELLY	OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-797
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LD 1953 proposed increasing the annual pesticide registration fee from \$105 to \$110 per product, beginning in calendar year 2003.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-797) proposed increasing pesticide product registration fees an additional \$5.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 498 increases the annual pesticide registration fee from \$105 to \$115 per product, beginning in calendar year 2003.

LD 1965

An Act to Amend the Animal Health and Disease Control Laws

PUBLIC 572

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KILKELLY CARR	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-470
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LD 1965 proposed revisions to statutory provisions for controlling and monitoring livestock and poultry diseases, including changing violations from criminal offenses to civil violations with specified forfeitures. It proposed requirements with respect to testing for equine infectious anemia to apply to boarding stables in addition to racetracks and fairgrounds. It proposed changes in provisions governing licenses for livestock and poultry dealers, operating commercial deer farms and permits for livestock and poultry auctions.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-470) proposed several technical changes and clarifications. It proposed amending penalty sections to allow courts to impose forfeitures up to a statutory maximum rather than establishing the amount of the forfeiture in statute. It proposes enacting a provision for a Class D crime when a disease or pathogen is intentionally, knowingly or recklessly introduced to livestock or poultry. It proposed removing the section in the bill that would have made the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources' records on health investigations confidential. It proposed removing the definition and inclusion of boarding stables from the provisions that apply to racetracks and fairgrounds with respect to testing for equine infectious anemia.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 572 revises and updates the provisions for controlling and monitoring diseases affecting livestock and poultry. It establishes civil penalties for violations that prior to enactment of this law were criminal offenses. It enacts a provision for a Class D crime when a disease or pathogen is intentionally, knowingly or recklessly introduced to livestock or poultry. It amends the provisions governing licensing of livestock and poultry dealers, operation of domesticated deer farms and issuance of permits for livestock and poultry auctions.

LD 2072

An Act to Permit Municipalities to Protect their Citizens Against Dangerous Dogs

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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dangerous dogs that are more stringent than those provided in the statutes. It proposed amending the statutory definition of "dangerous dog

LD 2096

Public Funds are Used to Acquire Conservation Easements

EMERGENCY

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process for state agencies to use when negotiating conservation easements to be acquired with state funds. The bill Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to participate in the working group. It would have charged the working management when the landowner retained the right to harvest timber. It proposed requiring the Director of the lands matters no later than January 15, 2003.

Committee Amendment "A" (H- proposed amending the Resolve to rec convened by the Executive Director of the State Planning Office consisting of representatives of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the Department of Conservation, the Department of Inland Fisheries Wildlife, the Office of the Attorney General and the Atlantic Salmon Commission. It proposed directing the chairs of the Joint Standing Committee of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to appoint a Legislator to serve on the alized its work.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H- proposed having the Speaker of the House rather than the chairs of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry appoint the ommittee to Study Access to Private and Public Lands in Maine to participate in the working group.

Senate Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (S 586) proposed Future Fund for the per diem and expenses of the Legislator who would participate in the working group. The

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Enacted law summary

Resolve 2001, chapter 116 recognizes the ongoing work of a group convened by the Executive Director of the State Planning Office to develop a process for state agencies to use when negotiating conservation easements to be acquired with state funds. The working group consists of representatives of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the Department of Conservation, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Office of the Attorney General and the Atlantic Salmon Commission. The Resolve directs the Speaker of the House to appoint a Legislator who served on the Committee to Study Access to Private and Public Lands to participate in the working group as it finalizes its work.

The working group is charged with developing criteria for acquiring public access rights and guidelines for stipulations regarding forest management when the landowner retains the right to harvest timber. The Director of the State Planning Office is required to provide notices of all remaining meetings of the working group and to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public lands matters no later than January 15, 2003.

Resolve 2001, chapter 116 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 11, 2002.

LD 2097

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Committee to Study Access to Private and Public Lands in Maine

PUBLIC 564

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM MAJ	H-889
	OTP-AM MIN	

LD 2097 proposed requiring a person submitting a proposal for funding from the Land for Maine's Future Fund or the Public Access to Maine Waters Fund to provide information on the anticipated management of the property and costs associated with the management of the property and monitoring for compliance with easements acquired.

It proposed requiring the Director of the Bureau of Forestry within the Department of Conservation to include information on changes in ownership of forest land and parcel size in the biennial state of the forest report. It proposed requiring the Bureau of Revenue Services to provide information on large land transfers in the unorganized territory, on the number of parcels in the unorganized territory taxed under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law and on the number of landowners owning 500 acres or more of commercial forest land.

LD 2097 also proposed requiring land initially enrolled as open space land after April 1, 2002 to be open to the public for nonmotorized recreation.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-889) was the majority report of the committee. It proposed specifying that the required description of management envisioned for a property would be for the 10-year period following acquisition. It proposed removing the sections in the bill that would have required public access for property initially enrolled as open space land after April 1, 2002.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-890), the minority report of the committee, proposed specifying that the required description of management envisioned for a property would be for the 10-year period following acquisition.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 564 requires a person submitting a proposal for funding from the Land for Maine's Future Fund or the Public Access to Maine Waters Fund to provide information on the anticipated management of the property for the 10 year period following acquisition and costs associated with the management of the property and monitoring for compliance with easements acquired.

It requires the Director of the Bureau of Forestry within the Department of Conservation to include information on changes in ownership of forest land and parcel size in the biennial state of the forest report using information available from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services and information reported to the bureau by municipalities.

It requires the Bureau of Revenue Services to report on land transfers of parcels 10,000 acres and greater in the unorganized territory. It requires the State Tax Assessor to report annually to the Bureau of Forestry on the number of parcels in the unorganized territory taxed under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law with a breakdown by parcel size categories.

It requires the State Tax Assessor to report annually on the number of landowners owning 500 acres or more of commercial forestland, including a breakdown of the number of landowners by acreage categories.

LD 2111 An Act to Authorize County Extension Building Associations to Borrow Money PUBLIC 594

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SKOGLUND KILKELLY	OTP-AM	H-943 H-969 MCKEE

LD 2111 proposed authorizing a county extension building association to borrow money.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-943) proposed replacing the original bill to revise the statutory structure of the provisions and to correct a cross-reference.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-969) proposed adding language to clarify that a county building association is a political subdivision of the State and tax exempt.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2002, chapter 594 authorizes a county extension building association to borrow money and clarifies that building associations have tax exempt status.

Join

LD 2135

Standards for Timber Harvesting in Shoreland Areas, a Major

RESOLVE 101
EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-959

LD 2135 proposed authorizing final adoption of Chapter 21: Statewide Standards for Timber Harvesting in Shoreland Areas, a major substantive rule of the Department of Conservation.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-959) proposed replacing the resolve. The amendment does not authorize adoption of Chapter 21. Instead, it proposed requiring the Department of Conservation to continue to work on developing a regulatory framework and an implementation plan for the Maine Forest Service to assume existing Department of Environmental Protection and Maine Land Use Regulation Commission responsibility for timber harvesting in shoreland areas. It proposed guidance to the department and requiring that the committee of jurisdiction be advised of progress. It proposed authorizing the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forestry matters to report out a bill in the First Session of the 121st Legislature.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2001, chapter 101 denies authorization for the Department of Conservation to finally adopt Chapter 21: Statewide Standards for Timber Harvesting in Shoreland Areas. It requires the Department of Conservation to review the proposed provisionally adopted rule and use that as a basis to develop recommendations for a regulatory framework and an implementation plan for the Maine Forest Service to assume existing Department of Environmental Protection and Maine Land Use Regulation Commission responsibility for timber harvesting in shoreland areas. It gives guidance to the department in its continuing efforts and requires the department to provide interim progress reports and a final report no later than January 2, 2003 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forestry matters. It authorizes the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over forestry matters to report out a bill in the First Session of the 121st Legislature.

Resolve 2001, chapter 101 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 3, 2002.

LD 2141

An Act to Amend the Animal Welfare Laws and Increase Funding for Animal Welfare

PUBLIC 617

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-963

LD 2141 proposed amendments to the animal welfare laws to clarify the disposition of dog license fees, and forfeitures for violating the animal welfare laws. It proposed a surcharge of 10% or \$10, whichever is greater, for civil violations or criminal violations of the animal welfare laws and specified that the surcharge be deposited in the Animal Welfare Fund. It proposed allocations from the Animal Welfare Fund to fund 2 District Humane Agents and a Veterinarian positions. It proposed eliminating funding for 4 of the 7 Intermittent State Humane Agents.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-963) proposed changes to the surcharge as proposed in the bill. It proposed a surcharge of \$10 for civil violations of animal welfare laws and 10% of the penalty for criminal violations of

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animal welfare laws. It proposed language to clarify that trapping animals is a violation of the cruelty to animals provisions except as permitted under the laws administered by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It proposed additional cross-references in statutes regarding surcharges and funds received by the courts.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 617 clarifies that the courts must pay to the towns fines and forfeitures imposed for violations of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7, Part 9 and the municipal clerk must deposit the money in the town's animal welfare account. It imposes a surcharge of \$10 on forfeitures for civil violations of the animal welfare laws. It imposes a surcharge of 10% on fines for criminal violations of the animal welfare laws. The surcharge must be deposited in the state Animal Welfare Fund. It allocates from the Animal Welfare Fund to fund 2 District Humane Agents and a Veterinarian positions. It eliminates funding for 4 of the 7 Intermittent State Humane Agents.

LD 2156 **An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Relating to Review of the Land for Maine's Future Board Under the Government Evaluation Act** **PUBLIC 548**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2156 proposed requiring the Land for Maine's Future Board to include in its annual report an update on projects acquired and managed by a cooperating entity. It proposed allowing the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to dispose of interest in land. It also proposed dates for the next review of several agencies under the Government Evaluation Act.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 548 requires the Land for Maine's Future Board to include in its annual report an update on projects acquired and managed by a cooperating entity. It allows the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to dispose of interest in land. It also establishes dates for the next review of several agencies reviewed during the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature under the Government Evaluation Act by the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

LD 2168 **Resolve, Authorizing Certain Land Transactions by the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands** **RESOLVE 108**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN BUNKER		OTP-AM		S-511 S-513 MARTIN

LD 2168 proposed authorizing the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to convey 3 relatively small parcels of public reserved lands.

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Committee Amendment "A" (S-511) proposed adding a fiscal note to the resolve.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-513) proposed language making the transfer of a portion of road in Eagle Lake Township contingent on a vote by the Town of Eagle Lake to accept the private road being conveyed by the Bureau of Parks and Lands. It also proposed granting the State reversionary rights if the road were abandoned or discontinued.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2001, chapter 108 authorizes the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to convey a portion of road in Eagle Lake Township to the Town of Eagle Lake, allowing the road to be established as a public way, maintained by the town. It allows the director to convey a parcel in Eagle Lake, occupied by a septic system, to current lessees of same for fair market value. It also allows the director to convey a portion of the Codyville Public Lot that has been cleared and occupied by residential structures and an associated building to the owners of the structures in exchange for a release of any remaining right they may have in the Codyville Public Lot.

LD 2181 **An Act to Amend the Rule-making Authority of the Department of Conservation Regarding Timber Harvesting in Shoreland Areas** **PUBLIC 566**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 2181 proposed amending the statutory provision directing the Department of Conservation to provisionally adopt rules to establish timber harvesting standards in shoreland areas.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 566 amends the statutory provision directing the Department of Conservation to provisionally adopt rules to establish timber-harvesting standards in shoreland areas. It removes certain parameters previously set in statute. (See the summary for Resolve 101)

HP 1589 **JOINT ORDER, Relative to the Commission to Study Issues Concerning Land Acquisition in Washington County** **ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
MORRISON

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

HP1589 proposed establishing a 7 member study commission to gather information on patterns of land ownership in Washington County and possible impacts of anticipated land acquisitions and acquisitions of conservation easements in the county. The study commission would have been required to submit a report with findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee having jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and forestry matters by November 6, 2002. In response to testimony at the public hearing on the joint study order, the committee wrote to Evan Richert, Chair of the Land for Maine's Future Board, requesting that a public meeting be

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held in Washington County to seek input on and offer a forum for discussion of proposals before the board for

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