

# 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 scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
STATE GOVERNMENT  
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

Prepared by:

Ted Potter, Legislative Assistant  
Office of Legislative Assistants  
State House, Station 13      Augusta, Maine    04333  
(207) 289-1670



STATE LAW LIBRARY  
JUL 11 1985

HELEN T. GINDER, DIRECTOR  
HAVEN WHITESIDE, ASST. DIRECTOR  
GILBERT W. BREWER  
DAVID ELLIOTT  
MARTHA FREEMAN  
CHRISTOS GIANOPOULOS  
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR.

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANTS  
ROOM 101  
STATE HOUSE, STATION 13  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
TEL.: (207) 289-2486

SARAH HOOKE  
JULIE S. JONES  
JOHN B. KNOX  
EDWARD POTTER  
MARGARET J. REINSCH  
LARS RYDELL  
JOHN SELSER  
ANDREA COLNES, RES. ASST.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

LD: 233 AN ACT DESIGNATING THE MAINE COON CAT AS THE  
STATE CAT

RACINE  
GWADOSKY  
BROWN A  
USHER

ONTP

HOUSE Enacted  
SENATE Enacted  
GOV SIGNED

PUBLIC  
CH # 73

SUMMARY:

LD 233, which has been enacted into law, establishes the Maine Coon Cat as the "State Cat." The proponents argued that the coon cat is the only cat native to Maine (brought over from Europe in the colonial period). The proponents argued that there is a "state insect," a "state bird," a "state fish," etc. As a result, there is precedence for a "state cat."

The opponents argued that the "state animal" is the moose, and since a cat is an animal, there should be no "state cat." In addition, the opponents argued that the coon cat is a domestic animal, whereas other living state emblems are wild. Another argument against the bill pointed out that the breeders of coon cats would be the real beneficiaries, economically, of the bill. The opponents also argued that the bill would encourage submission of other bills for a state dog, and similar emblems.

The bill passed in both houses despite the committee's majority ought-not-to-pass vote.

LD: 234 AN ACT PERTAINING TO THE OBSERVANCE OF  
VETERANS DAY

JALBERT  
PARADIS E  
CARPENTER

LV-WD

HOUSE Accepted Committee Report  
SENATE Accepted Committee Report  
GOV

SUMMARY:

LD 234 proposed to designate November 11 as Veterans Day, despite the day on which November 11 falls. Currently, Veterans Day is November 11, but is often celebrated on the Monday following the weekend on which the legal holiday periodically falls.

The Committee voted against the bill because Veterans Day is designated by current law as November 11, and celebrations can occur on the weekend rather than on the Monday following the weekend. Some members preferred a Monday celebration in lieu of the celebration on Sunday which is a holy day to some people.