

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1987

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Sponsor: FARREN JR, Dow, Perkins, Anderson
Committee Report: New draft of LD 218

SUMMARY: This bill increased snowmobile registration fees from the present \$11.25 and allocated the increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund of the Bureau of Parks and Recreation. These funds are used to support two grant programs, the Municipal Grant Program and the Club Grant Program, and the Bureau's operating costs. The fees have been at \$11.25 since 1975. These grant programs support a considerable trail system and augment extensive volunteer efforts. An increase was needed at this time or the trail system would have had to be cut back.

The original bill would have staggered the fee increase over several years with the cost of registration after 1990 at \$18.00. The new draft instituted a flat registration fee at \$16.00 to be effective July 1, 1987.

The Committee felt that \$18.00 was too steep an increase and by increasing the fees sooner, the needed funds would be generated.

Sponsor: JACQUES, McGowan
Committee Report: New draft of LD 45
Amendments Adopted:
H-62 BROWN

SUMMARY: The original bill increased the penalties for molesting, killing or possessing caribou to deter any harassment of caribou recently returned to Maine. The fine was set at between \$2,000 and \$10,000 with a mandatory jail sentence. It is thought that human interference may be the most substantial problem the caribou may face in their reintroduction to Maine, thus the penalties were set at a high rate.

The new draft increases the penalties to \$1000 for all big game hunting violations, including deer, bear, and moose. Major wild turkey hunting violations were set at \$500. The penalties for dogs chasing or attacking deer was increased to between \$500 and \$1000. The penalties for these violations had not been increased in 10 years and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no longer felt the fines were a significant deterrent. The House Amendment (H-62) corrects a technical error.