

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

**JULY 1997**

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Marge L. Kilkelly, Chair*

*Sen. Richard P. Ruhlin*

*Sen. Stephen E. Hall*

*Rep. Norman R. Paul, Chair*

*Rep. Ronald E. Usher*

*Rep. Joseph E. Clark*

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*Rep. Ruel P. Cross*

*Rep. Harry G. True*

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**Maine State Legislature**

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**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees  
August 1997**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the 15 Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature staffed by this office. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill, committee amendments and other relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken on the bill. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized alphabetically by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet ([www.state.me.us/legis/opla](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla)).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

- CARRIED OVER*.....*Bill carried over to Second Regular Session*
- CON RES XXX*.....*Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses*
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*.....*Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died*
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*.....*House & Senate disagree; bill died*
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....*One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill*
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*.....*Action incomplete when session ended; bill died*
- EMERGENCY*.....*Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days*
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....*Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote*
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....*Bill failed to get majority vote*
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*.....*Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote*
- INDEF PP*.....*Bill Indefinitely Postponed*
- ONTP*.....*Ought Not To Pass report accepted*
- OTP ND*.....*Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft*
- OTP ND/NT*.....*Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title*
- P&S XXX*.....*Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*
- PUBLIC XXX*.....*Chapter # of enacted Public Law*
- RESOLVE XXX*.....*Chapter # of finally passed Resolve*
- UNSIGNED*.....*Bill held by Governor*
- VETO SUSTAINED*.....*Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto*

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 26, 1997 and September 19, 1997 for the First Special Session.

*David E. Boulter, Director*

Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

**LD 1134**

**Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 21 (21.03), Amendments to License Agent Reporting Requirements, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

**RESOLVE 15  
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report  
OTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1134 proposed to authorize Chapter 21, a major substantive rule of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The proposed rule pertained to the licensing and reporting requirements of agents.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 1997, chapter 15 authorized the department to adopt the proposed rules as presented. This law is effective on April 18, 1997.

**LD 1137**

**An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1998 and June 30, 1999**

**PUBLIC 24**

Sponsor(s)  
KERR

Committee Report  
OTP-AM MAJ  
OTP-AM MIN

Amendments Adopted  
H-15  
H-73 KERR  
H-75 KERR  
H-108 KERR

LD 1137 was the Part I budget bill. It did not propose statutory changes to the fish and wildlife laws.

**Committee Amendment “A” (H-15)** proposed changes to a wide range of state government policy areas, including changes to the fish and wildlife laws.

Part I of Committee Amendment “A” proposed to:

Require that the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife be reimbursed for administrative costs of activities performed by the department in support of federal and Other Special Revenue accounts;

Allow residents and nonresidents to purchase additional chances in the moose permit lottery. Residents would retain the right to purchase one chance for \$5 without possessing a hunting license. Residents who possess a valid big game hunting license would be eligible to purchase three chances for \$10 and six chances for \$20. Nonresidents would be eligible to purchase one chance for \$10, two chances for \$20 and six chances of \$40. Nonresidents would not be required to possess a hunting license to purchase an application;

Require an appropriation to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to reimburse the department for administrative costs it incurs in collecting watercraft sales taxes;

Increase annual motorboat registration fees from \$4 to \$6 for a motorboat equipped with a motor of 10 horsepower or less to \$10 for a motorboat equipped with a motor between 10 and 50 horsepower and to \$15 for a motorboat equipped with a motor of greater than 50 horsepower. The amendment also proposed to increase from \$4 to \$20 the annual registration fee for a personal watercraft;

Require an appropriation to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to reimburse the department for administrative costs associated with collection of watercraft registration fees;

Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to subtract the administrative costs it incurs in collecting and distributing snowmobile registration fees and dealer fees before crediting any of that revenue to the Department of Conservation or the General Fund. The amendment proposed to change the distribution formula for specific dollar amounts to percentages of money remaining after the department subtracts its administrative costs;

Require an appropriation to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to reimburse the department for the administrative costs it incurs in collecting and distributing snowmobile taxes;

Increase the annual resident snowmobile registration fee from \$20 to \$25;

Require an appropriation to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to reimburse the department for administrative costs incurred in collecting and distributing all-terrain vehicle registration fees. The amendment proposed to change the distribution formula from specific dollar amounts to percentages;

Require an appropriation to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in each fiscal year to reimburse the department for administrative costs incurred in collecting all-terrain vehicle sales taxes;

Require the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to achieve savings of at least \$240,000 in each fiscal year in the biennium in General Fund Personal Services by means that include postponing filling positions in the department that are or that become vacant in the department during the biennium. Any positions to be held vacant to achieve the purposes of this section would be selected by the commissioner. The commissioner would be required to detail the positions affected by this amendment and the savings achieved on a monthly basis; and

Authorize amounts in the Carrying Account to lapse to the General Fund in fiscal year 1997-98 and fiscal year 1998-99 in an amount equal to the General Fund appropriations to the department in each fiscal year minus the budget revenues of the department in each fiscal year.

**House Amendments “FF” (H-73), “HH” (H-75) and “KK” (H-108)** did not propose statutory changes to the fish and wildlife laws.

#### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1997, chapter 24 makes the following changes to the fish and wildlife laws.

It requires that the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife be reimbursed for administrative costs of activities performed by the department in support of federal and Other Special Revenue accounts.

It allows residents and nonresidents to purchase additional chances in the moose permit lottery. Residents retain the right to purchase one chance for \$5 without possessing a hunting license. Residents who possess a valid big game hunting license are eligible to purchase three chances for \$10 and six chances for \$20. Nonresidents are eligible to

purchase one chance for \$10, two chances for \$20 and six chances of \$40. Nonresidents are not required to possess a hunting license to purchase an application.

It requires an appropriation to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to reimburse the department for administrative costs it incurs in collecting watercraft sales taxes.

It increases annual motorboat registration fees from \$4 to \$6 for a motorboat equipped with a motor of 10 horsepower or less to \$10 for a motorboat equipped with a motor between 10 and 50 horsepower and to \$15 for a motorboat equipped with a motor of greater than 50 horsepower. It also increases from \$4 to \$20 the annual registration fee for a personal watercraft.

It requires an appropriation to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to reimburse the department for administrative costs associated with collection of watercraft registration fees.

It requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to subtract the administrative costs it incurs in collecting and distributing snowmobile registration fees and dealer fees before crediting any of that revenue to the Department of Conservation or the General Fund. It changes the distribution formula for specific dollar amounts to percentages of money remaining after the department subtracts its administrative costs.

It requires an appropriation to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to reimburse the department for the administrative costs it incurs in collecting and distributing snowmobile taxes.

It increases the annual resident snowmobile registration fee from \$20 to \$25.

It requires an appropriation to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to reimburse the department for administrative costs incurred in collecting and distributing all-terrain vehicle registration fees. It changes the distribution formula from specific dollar amounts to percentages.

It requires an appropriation to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in each fiscal year to reimburse the department for administrative costs incurred in collecting all-terrain vehicle sales taxes.

It requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to achieve savings of at least \$240,000 in each fiscal year in the biennium in General Fund Personal Services by means that include postponing filling positions in the department that are or that become vacant in the department during the biennium. Any positions to be held vacant to achieve the purposes of this section must be selected by the commissioner. The commissioner is required to detail the positions affected by this amendment and the savings achieved on a monthly basis.

It authorizes amounts in the Carrying Account to lapse to the General Fund in fiscal year 1997-98 and fiscal year 1998-99 in an amount equal to the General Fund appropriations to the department in each fiscal year minus the budget revenues of the department in each fiscal year.

**LD 1159**

**An Act to Open Trapping Season on Saturday**

**CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)  
GOODWIN

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted