

# 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*

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*Rep. Ruel P. Cross*

*Rep. Harry G. True*

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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:

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

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

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

LD 1159 proposes to require that the open season on trapping begin on a Saturday. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

**LD 1162**                    **An Act to Clarify the Duties of the Maine Atlantic Salmon Authority**                    **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'NEIL KIEFFER		

LD 1162 proposes to clarify that the Atlantic Salmon Authority has the sole authority to introduce, import, stock and rear or to permit the introduction, importation, stocking and rearing of Atlantic salmon, live or as eggs, into the State or into the inland or coastal waters of the State.

The bill also proposes to establish the Atlantic Salmon Authority as the State's liaison to federal, regional and state authorities on issues pertaining to Atlantic salmon and allows the authority to accept Atlantic salmon, live or as eggs, from hatcheries and commercial aquaculture facilities inside and outside the State if those fish or eggs meet the health and grading standards adopted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

The bill also proposes to prohibit any person, except commercial aquaculture facilities, from importing, transporting, possessing, rearing or stocking Atlantic salmon without a permit issued by the authority. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

**LD 1186**                    **An Act to Ensure Hunting Safety**                    **ONTP**

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

LD 1186 proposed to prohibit hunting after 2 p.m. on Halloween.

**LD 1247**                    **An Act to Require Reflectors on Ice Fishing Shacks**                    **ONTP**

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

LD 1247 proposed to require that ice fishing shacks on inland and coastal waters have reflectors or reflecting tape affixed to each side of the shack at least three feet above the ice. Rental ice fishing shacks equipped with electricity were proposed to be exempted from this requirement.