

# 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*

*Rep. Matthew Dunlap*

*Rep. Albion D. Goodwin*

*Rep. Royce W. Perkins*

*Rep. Howard A. Chick*

*Rep. John H. Underwood*

*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 1479**

**An Act to Decriminalize Various Fish and Game Violations and Enhance Collectibility of Associated Penalties**

**CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)  
MILLS

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1479 proposes to revise the responsibilities of game wardens by allowing them to take cash or credit card payments for bail in any location when an arrest is made. The bill proposes that game wardens making arrests in Cumberland County may take the defendant to any District Court serving Cumberland County, rather than being limited to the closest court. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

**LD 1546**

**An Act to Require That an Adult Accompany Youths Attending Hunter Safety Programs**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
USHER  
KILKELLY

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1546 proposed to require that adults accompany minors who attend a hunter safety course.

**LD 1564**

**An Act Allowing People with Disabilities to Use Open-face Fishing Rods in Fly-fishing Only Waters**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
CLEVELAND

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1564 proposed to allow a person who is not able to use a fly rod due to a physical disability to fish in fly-fishing only waters using a rod and reel with a single line and fly.

**LD 1588**

**An Act Concerning Rabbit Hunting with Dogs**

**PUBLIC 280**

Sponsor(s)  
PERKINS

Committee Report  
OTP MAJ  
ONTP MIN

Amendments Adopted

LD 1588 proposed to allow rabbit hunting with dogs during the open firearm season on deer.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1997, chapter 280 permits rabbit hunting with dogs during the open firearm season on deer.