

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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Staff:

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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).

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

7. Clarify the licensing requirements for a person who wishes to operate a private pond for fishing;
8. Require that a person who applies for a Maine guide license or a whitewater guide license take an examination if that person has not held that license within the previous three years;
9. Clarify that a person give notice to a game warden in the event of a hunting accident or, in the event that the game warden can not be contacted, to the law enforcement officer nearest the place where the event occurred;
10. Establishes a point system for the moose lottery that gives a person one point for each consecutive year in which that person purchases a moose lottery application but is not selected to receive a permit;
11. Require ice shacks to be removed from the ice by March 15th in Androscoggin, Cumberland, Hancock, Kennebec, Lincoln, Oxford, Sagadahoc, Waldo and York counties;
12. Allow commercially prepared fish eggs from species that do not naturally occur in Maine to be used for bait;
13. Clarify what constitutes operating a snowmobile to endanger;
14. Creates an 11-member Commission to Study the Stocking of Alewives; and
15. Add an appropriation section, an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-619) proposed to retain the current law regarding ice shacks.

House Amendment "A" (H-659) proposed to clarify that the definition of hunting equipment includes only that equipment that is permitted under the hunting laws.

House Amendment "C" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-744) proposed to require that the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife do the Alewife study during the interim and report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 432 incorporates the changes described above in the adopted amendments.

LD 1611

An Act to Amend Snowmobile Registration Fees and Promote Snowmobile Club Participation

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELANGER D PARADIS	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1611 proposed to make the annual snowmobile registration fee \$35 for both residents and nonresidents, removing the current dual fee structure. It also proposed to provide a \$10 discount on the registration fee for members of a snowmobile club recognized and approved by an incorporated statewide snowmobile association,

such as the Maine Snowmobile Association, and allocates \$10 of the \$35 registration fee for nonmembers of such a club to an incorporated statewide snowmobile association, such as the Maine Snowmobile Association. The bill also proposed to exempt residents of New Brunswick, Quebec and New Hampshire from having to register snowmobiles in this State if they have registered the snowmobiles in their home states or provinces.

LD 1704 An Act to Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife PUBLIC 312
to File Monthly Revenue Reports

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
UNDERWOOD	OTP MAJ ONTP MIN	

LD 1704 proposed to require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a monthly report of revenues and expenditures to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 312 requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a monthly report of revenues and expenditures to each member of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters.

LD 1736 An Act to Register New Property for the Thorncrag Bird Sanctuary PUBLIC 288
with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LEMAIRE CATHCART	OTP	

LD 1736 proposed to add the description of land recently acquired by the Thorncrag Bird Sanctuary to the statutory description of that bird sanctuary.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 288 adds the description of land recently acquired by the Thorncrag Bird Sanctuary to the statutory description of that bird sanctuary.

LD 1801 An Act to Adopt Long-range Changes in the Methods by Which CARRIED OVER
Whitewater Rafting Trips Are Allocated among Licensees

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