

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
AND
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

MAY 1998

MEMBERS:

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Sen. Richard P. Ruhlin
Sen. Stephen E. Hall

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Staff:

Patrick T. Norton, Principal Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
 Telephone: (207) 287-1670
 Fax: (207) 287-1275

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 1998

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. 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 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:

- 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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9, 1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

LD 2073**An Act to Promote Economic Development by Creating a Zone on the Northern Maine Border in which Snowmobiles Registered in New Brunswick or Quebec May Operate**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELANGER D PARADIS	ONTP	

LD 2073 proposed to create a 50-mile buffer zone on the northern Maine border in which a snowmobile registered in New Brunswick or Quebec, but not in this State, may be operated.

LD 2293**An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Pursuant to Their Review under the Government Evaluation Act**

PUBLIC 796

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PAUL	MAJ (OTP) REP	S-747

LD 2293 is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to its review of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife under the State Government Evaluation Act.

Senate Amendment "B" (S-747) removed a provision from the bill that is included in Public Law 1998, chapter 643.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 796 establishes a "Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs" program in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to accept money, goods or services for the program. The bill also allows the department to sanction private fishing events and allows a person who does not hold a fishing license to assist a child or handicapped person participating in those events.

The law also clarifies the laws pertaining to shooting from a motor vehicle.

The law also establishes the Public Boat Launch Access Program in the department to provide fair and equitable access to public waters by acquiring waterfront property and providing appropriate access to those waters.

The law also increases from \$300 to \$1,000 the property damage amount that triggers a reportable accident under the snowmobile laws and authorizes the transfer of \$70,000 from the department's savings fund to the all other accounts of the Division of Public Information and Education for marketing purposes.