

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
MARINE RESOURCES**

**JULY 1999**

***MEMBERS:***

*Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait, Chair*

*Sen. Peggy A. Pendleton*

*Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon*

*Rep. David M. Etnier, Chair*

*Rep. Paul Volenik*

*Rep. Martha A. Bagley*

*Rep. Wendy Pieh*

*Rep. Ronald E. Usher*

*Rep. William D. Pinkham*

*Rep. Kenneth F. Lemont*

*Rep. Kenneth A. Honey*

*Rep. Deborah Kaler McNeil*

*Rep. Robert E. Stanwood*

***Staff:***

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**ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees**  
**August 1999**

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. 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 and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the 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](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  
*ENACTMENT FAILED*..... Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY*..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died  
*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 September 18, 1999.

LD 447 proposed to allow for a reduction in the retail seafood license fee for a license issued after September 30th.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-30)**, the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources, proposed to amend the bill by allowing for a reduction in the retail seafood license fee for a license issued after September 30th only to a person who has not previously held a retail seafood license for the establishment or vehicle named in the new license. The amendment proposed to change the reduced fee from \$42.50 to \$42 and to specify that the full fee applies regardless of the date the license is issued if a person is in violation of the requirement to have a retail seafood license. The amendment also proposed to establish an effective date of April 1, 2000. This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 504                      An Act to Correct Inequities in Lobster and Crab Fishing Licensure Laws                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PINGREE		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 504 proposed to amend the current moratorium on the issuance of new Class I, Class II or Class III lobster and crab fishing licenses except to those persons who were licensed in the previous calendar year to allow a license to be issued to a person who possessed a Class I, Class II or Class III license prior to 1996 and to require the Commissioner of Marine Resources to give priority to those license applications.

**LD 522                      An Act to Regulate the Harvesting of Rockweed and Seaweed in Maine Waters                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GOODWIN CASSIDY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 522 proposed to require the Commissioner of Marine Resources to adopt rules regulating the harvesting of seaweed from the low water mark to the three-mile territorial sea line. The bill also proposed to require the commissioner to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources by January 15, 2000 on the status of the rules and the condition of the State's seaweed resource.

**LD 653                      An Act to Limit to 5 Days per Week the Taking of Elvers in Hand Dip Nets                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> RUHLIN		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 653 proposed to eliminate from current law the permission to use fyke nets and Sheldon eel traps to fish for or take elvers from coastal waters of the State and to provide that only hand dip nets may be used for elver fishing. The bill proposed to retain the five-day per week period for elver fishing in current law.