

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
121st Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

July 2003

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Maine State Legislature



Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis Office Of Fiscal And Program Review

121st Maine Legislature First Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint 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 committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name 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:

<i>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i>	<i>Bills carried over to the 2nd 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 & 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>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</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>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i>	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</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 that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 13, 2003.

David C. Elliott, Director
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Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 460

An Act To Encourage Dog Tracking of Wounded Big Game Animals

PUBLIC 54

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TRAHAN HALL	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-39
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LD 460 proposed to direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to allow a person licensed to track wounded animals with a leashed dog to charge a fee for the tracking service. It also proposed to add moose and bear to the list of game animals that a tracker may track and would require the department to list all licensed leashed-dog trackers in any hunting rule publication the department makes available to the general public.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-39) proposed to make unallocated language of the bill allocated language and to clarify that a person who charges a fee only for dog tracking services would not be not considered a guide.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2003, chapter 54 allows a person licensed to track wounded animals with leashed dogs to charge a fee for the tracking service and adds moose and bear to the list of game animals that a tracker may track with leashed dogs.

LD 468

An Act To Amend the Ice Fishing and Fishing Derby Laws

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DUNLAP	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 468 proposed to limit a person licensed to fish through the ice to 2 lines set or otherwise. The bill also proposed to move the open season for ice fishing from January 1st to February 1st. The bill also proposed to restrict fishing derbies to one every other year per body of water.

LD 474

An Act To Strengthen the ATV Laws of the State

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TRAHAN HALL	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 474 proposed to raise ATV registration fees to \$50 and dedicate the increase to ATV enforcement and safety education. The bill proposed to require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to ensure that registration plates were displayed in a manner that would allow for easy identification of registration numbers and to repeal the ATV registration reciprocity law. The bill also proposed to require ATV operators to get prior written

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

permission to operate an ATV on the land of another and to provide treble damages to a land or property owner whose property was damaged by use of an ATV.

(See LD 359.)

LD 565 **An Act To Increase Fish Stocking in Aroostook County** **ONTP**

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

LD 565 proposed to require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to stock lakes in Aroostook County at the same level as in other regions of the State.

LD 626 **An Act To Allow the Use of All Deer Parts** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRYANT-DESCHENE BLAIS	ONTP	

LD 626 proposed to allow all parts of a deer carcass to be sold or bartered.

LD 647 **An Act To Prohibit Personal Watercraft on Lake St. George in the Town of Liberty** **PUBLIC 484
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIOTTI WESTON	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	S-286 BRYANT

LD 647 proposed to authorize the Town of Liberty to ban the use of personal watercraft on Lake St. George.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-389), which was the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, proposed to replace the bill and establish a process for the review of recommendations submitted by a municipality or the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission to restrict the use of watercraft on great ponds within the jurisdiction of that municipality or the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission. It also proposed to prohibit the use of personal watercraft on Lake St. George in the Town of Liberty. (Not adopted)

Committee Amendment "B" (H-390), which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, proposed to replace the bill and prohibit the operation of personal watercraft on Lake St. George in the Town of Liberty. (Not adopted)

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-461) proposed to add an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill. It also proposed to specifically authorize a municipality or the Maine Land Use