

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

*First Regular Session and
First Special Session*

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

August 2005

Members:

*Sen. Bruce S. Bryant, Chair
Sen. Joseph C. Perry
Sen. Chandler E. Woodcock*

*Rep. Thomas R. Watson, Chair
Rep. Walter A. Wheeler, Sr.
Rep. Stanley A. Moody*

*Rep. Jacqueline A. Lundeen
Rep. Troy D. Jackson
Rep. Mark E. Bryant
Rep. A. David Trahan
Rep. Earl E. Richardson
Rep. Richard M. Cebra
Rep. David E. Richardson*

Staff:

Curtis C. Bentley, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670*



Maine State Legislature

OFFICE OF POLICY & LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Room 215 Cross State Office Building
Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

122nd Legislature
First Regular Session and First Special Session

Summary of Legislation Considered by the Joint Standing Committees
August 2005

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 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. A subject index for each committee is included immediately before the bill summaries for that committee, and a numerical index by LD number is included 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
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 June 29, 2005; and for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session is September 17, 2005.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 1220

An Act To Improve the Process for Reporting Accidents Involving Off-road Vehicles

PUBLIC 436

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SMITH N COWGER	OTP-AM	H-288

LD 1220 proposed to apply laws dealing with the requirements and penalties for motorists involved in accidents to operators of snowmobiles and ATVs involved in accidents off-road or on public ways, including laws regarding accident reports and accidents involving death or personal injury, vehicle damage, unattended vehicles and property damage.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-288) proposed to replace the bill and provide that an operator involved in a watercraft, snowmobile or ATV accident who intentionally, knowingly or recklessly fails to provide that operator's name, address and the registration number of that operator's recreational vehicle or fails to render reasonable aid to injured persons commits a Class C crime. The amendment would also correct several cross-references and repeal certain provisions of current law and enact substantially similar provisions in reorganized form.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 436 provides that an operator involved in a watercraft, snowmobile or ATV accident who intentionally, knowingly or recklessly fails to provide that operator's name, address and the registration number of that operator's recreational vehicle or fails to render reasonable aid to an injured person commits a Class C crime.

LD 1253

Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Adopt and Follow a Rules Policy Regarding Inland Fishing

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P ANNIS	ONTP	

LD 1253 proposed to direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council to adopt and follow a rules policy regarding inland fishing. The policy would state that when it was necessary to give a fish population extra protection, bag-limit or length-limit restrictions would be the first method employed to protect that fish population. Except in extraordinary cases, those restrictions would apply equally to open-water fishing and ice fishing. It also proposed that when a desired objective could not be achieved through bag or length restrictions, gear restrictions would be the next method employed and the method employed last would be restrictions of opportunity by shortening the seasons. In cases in which the department proposed a fishing rule that did not follow this rules policy, a statement would be included with the proposed rule explaining and justifying the decision not to follow the rules policy.