

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES
AND WILDLIFE**

July 2007

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STATE OF MAINE

123RD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

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
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY.....	Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEF PP.....	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP-ND.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PASSED.....	Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 that the effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 117 An Act To Prohibit Hunting at Range Ponds State Park ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAVEN BRANNIGAN	ONTP	

LD 117 prohibits hunting in Range Ponds State Park.

LD 126 Resolve, To Increase Public Access to Glazier Lake ONTP

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

LD 126 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to negotiate with a private owner of land that has access to Connors Cove on Glazier Lake in Aroostook County for public access to Glazier Lake.

**LD 152 An Act To Restrict the Use of Personal Watercraft on Crescent Lake
and Tenney River in Raymond BY REQUEST ONTP**

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

LD 152 prohibits the use of personal watercraft on Crescent Lake and Tenney River in Raymond.

**LD 153 An Act To Improve the Control and Prevention of Invasive Plant
Species PUBLIC 44**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EBERLE	OTP-AM	H-28

LD 153 incorporates the existing lake and river protection sticker fee for Maine registered boats, \$10, with the watercraft registration fee. This eliminates the need for producing and administering a lake and river protection sticker for Maine-registered watercraft. It also revises the watercraft registration fee structure to include the \$10 lake and river protection fee for watercraft operating on inland waters of the State. LD 153 provides that only watercraft registered outside Maine must continue to display a separate lake and river protection sticker.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-28)

This committee amendment clarifies that the current lake and river protection sticker requirement still applies to nonresidents.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 44 incorporates the existing lake and river protection sticker and fee structure for Maine-registered boats with the watercraft registration eliminating the need to produce and administer a

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

separate lake and river protection sticker for watercraft registered in Maine. Watercraft registered outside of Maine will still be required to display the separate lake and river protection sticker when operating in the inland waters of the state.

LD 162 An Act To Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Track All Stocking and Transfers of Fish ONTP

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

LD 162 requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to track and record all stocking and transfers of fish in inland waters and to make that information publicly available.

LD 163 An Act To Prohibit the Use of Blackchin Shiners as Baitfish PUBLIC 159

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WATSON	OTP-AM MAJ OTP MIN	H-66

LD 163 prohibits the use of the eastern silvery minnow, the emerald shiner, the spottail shiner and the blackchin shiner as bait fish in inland waters of the state.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-66)

This committee amendment prohibits only the use of blackchin shiners as baitfish in inland waters.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 159 prohibits the use of blackchin shiners as baitfish in the inland waters of the state.

LD 164 An Act To Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Fin-clip All Stocked Fish ONTP

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

LD 164 requires that all fish stocked by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in the inland waters be fin-clipped prior to release.

LD 165 An Act To Designate the Arctic Charr as a State Heritage Fish PUBLIC 21

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WATSON	OTP-AM	H-14

LD 165 establishes *Salvelinus alpinus oquassa*, a distinct subspecies of the arctic charr known in Maine as the blueback charr, as a state heritage fish. It also requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt by rule a list of all state heritage fish waters and requirements.