

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 307 allows landowners to hunt on Sunday on their own land if they own 20 or more acres and the land is open to hunting by the public. It requires a participating landowner to register with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

LD 347 An Act To Improve Landowner Relations

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

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

LD 347 adds the coordination of landowner relations activities to the list of responsibilities of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Warden Service. It also authorizes the bureau to request the assistance from other agencies with respect to these activities.

LD 356 An Act Concerning Certain Hunting License Fees and Antlerless Deer Permits

ONTP

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

LD 356 provides complimentary hunting licenses and permits to residents 65 years of age or older and honorably discharged veterans if they have purchased a Maine hunting license for at least 10 years. It provides that a person who applied for but did not receive an antlerless deer permit through the lottery system may purchase an antlerless deer permit that was not otherwise allocated through the lottery system for a fee of \$100. This bill also lowers the fee for a junior resident hunting license from \$7 to \$5 if a person under 16 years of age purchases the license at the same time that person's parent or guardian purchases a hunting license. It also removes antiquated language regarding complimentary licenses for residents over 70 years of age.

LD 366 An Act To Make Additions and Deletions to the List of State Endangered and Threatened Species

PUBLIC 166

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRYANT M	OTP-AM	H-59 S-51 BRYANT B

The Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 12803 requires that prior to recommending additions, deletions or other changes to the list of endangered and threatened species, the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall provide for public notice and public hearings on the proposed recommendations to the Legislature. LD 366 contains the recommended additions, amendments and deletions to that list.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-59)

This committee amendment amends the bill by making technical changes to certain scientific names.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-51)

This amendment corrects a spelling error.

Enacted Law Summary

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Public Law 2007, chapter 166 amends the list of state endangered and threatened species by adding 14 species, removing 1 species, down-listing 1 species, updating the names of 4 species and adding the qualifier “breeding population only” to 2 species already on the list.

LD 379 An Act To Expand the Fall Wild Turkey Hunting Season

ONTP

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

LD 379 requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to expand the fall wild turkey hunting season.

LD 421 An Act To Improve Deer Management and Hunting

ONTP

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

LD 421 allows a person who holds an antlerless deer permit to take a second deer, which is an antlerless deer, during an open, special, archery or muzzle-loading season. It also requires a \$10 fee to be charged for an antlerless deer permit, which must be credited to the Antlerless Deer Fund to staff and administer a landowners relations program.

LD 455 An Act To Protect the All-terrain Vehicle Trail System

PUBLIC 202

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON	OTP-AM	H-291

LD 455 is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

LD 455 proposes to clarify the definition of an all-terrain vehicle in the statutes and further proposes to enact restrictions on the use of all-terrain vehicle trails, including limiting truck use on the trails designed for all-terrain vehicle use.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-291)

This committee amendment prohibits a truck, pickup truck or passenger vehicle from operating on a designated all-terrain vehicle trail that is not on a gravel road system unless that use has been authorized by the landowner or the landowner's agent or it is necessitated by an emergency involving the safety of a person or property.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 202 prohibits a truck, pickup truck or passenger vehicle from operating on a designated all-terrain vehicle trail that is not on a gravel road system unless that use has been authorized by the landowner or the landowner's agent or it is necessitated by an emergency involving the safety of a person or property.