

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

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

August 2015

MEMBERS:

SEN. PAUL T. DAVIS, SR., CHAIR
SEN. SCOTT W. CYRWAY
SEN. DAVID E. DUTREMBLE

REP. MICHAEL A. SHAW, CHAIR
REP. ROLAND DANNY MARTIN
REP. STANLEY BYRON SHORT, JR.
REP. ROBERT W. ALLEY, SR.
REP. DALE J. CRAFTS
REP. STEPHEN J. WOOD
REP. ROGER E. REED
REP. PATRICK W. COREY
REP. GARY L. HILLIARD
REP. PETER A. LYFORD
REP. MATTHEW DANA II

STAFF:

CURTIS BENTLEY, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

STATE OF MAINE

127TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 127th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</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; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN HOUSES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagreed; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>action incomplete when session ended; legislation died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment</i>
<i>FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>failed to receive final majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>HELD BY GOVERNOR</i>	<i>Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session</i>
<i>LEAVE TO WITHDRAW</i>	<i>sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>indefinitely postponed; legislation died</i>
<i>ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X</i>	<i>ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted private & special law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted public law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of finally passed resolve</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature is October 15, 2015. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This bill allows homeowners associations, unit owners associations and condominium owners associations to be issued a permit by the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to establish developed swim areas.

This bill was not referred to a committee.

LD 561 An Act To Recognize the Registrations of Snowmobiles and All-terrain Vehicles Owned by Residents of a State That Borders Maine ONTP

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

This bill allows for reciprocity of snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicle registrations with New Hampshire.

LD 570 An Act To Authorize the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Postpone or Cancel an Open Hunting Season PUBLIC 57

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOOD DAVIS	OTP	H-89 SHAW

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to postpone or cancel an open hunting season if, based on principles of sound scientific wildlife management, it is necessary for wildlife conservation purposes.

House Amendment "A" (H-89)

This amendment clarifies the reasons for which the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife may postpone or cancel an open hunting season. Unlike the bill, which authorized the commissioner to postpone the season if "necessary for wildlife conservation purposes," this amendment specifies that the commissioner may postpone the season if the commissioner has concerns regarding disease, weather conditions, reduction in population or other unforeseen factors that may prevent publicly derived management goals from being met.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 57 authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to postpone or cancel an open hunting season if, based on principles of sound scientific wildlife management, the commissioner has concerns regarding disease, weather conditions, reduction in population or other unforeseen factors that may prevent publicly derived management goals from being met.

LD 571 Resolve, To Study the Need for a Standard Formula for the Horsepower of Motors Used on the Lakes and Ponds of the State Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAFTS DAVIS	ONTP OTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to create a working group to study and recommend legislation regarding the need for a standard formula for determining maximum horsepower for motorized watercraft on lakes and ponds in the State. It also directs the department to submit the report and any

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

recommended legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by December 2, 2015.

LD 608 An Act To Allow Junior, Senior and Veteran Hunters To Shoot ONTP
Antlerless Deer on the Opening Day of Hunting Season

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

This bill allows a licensed junior hunter, veteran or person who is 65 years of age or older to take an antlerless deer with a firearm on the first day of the regular deer hunting season and imposes a \$10 deer registration fee.

LD 609 An Act To Provide an Incentive to Nonresident Landowners Who Own CARRIED OVER
More than 250 Acres To Keep That Land Open for Hunting

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN J DAVIS		

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue any hunting or fishing license at a reduced rate to a nonresident who owns more than 250 acres of land in this State and keeps that land open for hunting.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 610 An Act To Provide That Inland Waters Stocked with Fish by the State ONTP
May Not Open for Ice Fishing until the Next January 1st

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

This bill requires inland waters stocked with fish by the State to be closed to ice fishing until the January 1st of the calendar year following the year in which stocking occurred.

LD 639 An Act To Allow Certain Youths To Take a Deer of Either Sex ONTP

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

This bill allows a person who is at least 10 years of age and under 15 years of age who holds a junior hunting license to take multiple antlered or antlerless deer without a permit during the years of the junior hunter's eligibility.