

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2017

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH LEGISLATURE
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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 128th 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.

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

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. 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

LD 241 **An Act To Eliminate the Authority of Game Wardens To Violate the Hunting and Fishing Laws When Carrying Out the Duties of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife** **Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule**

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

This bill eliminates the authority of game wardens and other officials with the powers of game wardens to violate the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, Part 13 in carrying out their duties and powers.

LD 275 **An Act To Expand Disabled Veteran Eligibility for Complimentary Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Licenses** **PUBLIC 100**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KINNEY J CHENETTE J	OTP-AM ONTP	H-97

This bill expands eligibility for complimentary hunting, trapping and fishing licenses, including permits, stamps and other permissions necessary to hunt, trap and fish in Maine, to include nonresident disabled veterans who hold valid hunting or fishing licenses in the states in which they are residents.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-97)

This amendment, which is the majority report, allows a nonresident veteran with a disability evaluated at 50% or more to obtain at no cost all hunting, trapping and fishing licenses and other provisions in Maine, if the nonresident's state has a reciprocal agreement with Maine. The amendment removes from the bill the requirement that a nonresident veteran hold a valid hunting, trapping or fishing license in the nonresident's state.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 100 allows a nonresident veteran with a disability evaluated at 50% or more to obtain at no cost all hunting, trapping and fishing licenses and other provisions in Maine, if the nonresident's state has a reciprocal agreement with Maine.

LD 276 **An Act To Require a Game Warden's Certificate To Kill Wild Animals Causing Damage to Crops or Orchards and Notification to Nearby Residents** **Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIERCE J CYRWAY S	ONTP OTP	

This bill requires the cultivator, owner, mortgagee or keeper of any orchard or growing crop to obtain a certificate from a game warden in order to take or kill wild animals or wild turkeys causing substantial damage to the orchard or crop. The game warden must investigate the circumstances of the application for a certificate and may issue the certificate if the game warden is satisfied that a wild animal or wild turkey is causing substantial damage to an orchard or crop. The certificate must describe the animals that may be taken or killed and the area where the animals may be taken or killed. The certificate holder must notify residents within 1,000 feet of the boundary of the area where the animals may be taken or killed that the certificate holder is authorized to take or kill those animals in