

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2019

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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 129th 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 129th Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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 275 An Act To Change the Bag Limits on Wild Turkey ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MIRAMANT D EVANGELOS J	ONTP	

This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to double the bag limits on wild turkey in effect on January 1, 2018. It also requires the commissioner to submit a report by January 1, 2020, and annually thereafter, that includes recommendations regarding bag limits on wild turkey. It gives the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters authority to report out a bill based on the report.

**LD 313 An Act To Increase Access to Moose and Doe Permits for
Combat-injured Veterans ONTP**

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill would increase access to moose and doe permits for the rehabilitation of combat-injured veterans.

**LD 321 An Act To Ensure the Continuation of the Landowner Relations
Program ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KESCHL D BREEN C	ONTP	

This bill provides funding to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to allow the department through the landowner relations program to improve relationships or maintain good relationships between landowners and outdoor recreationists.

LD 337 An Act To Start a Spring Bear Hunting Season ONTP

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

This bill amends the law on open and closed seasons on bear to direct the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a spring bear hunting season.

LD 339 An Act To Prohibit Unattended Watercraft on Open Water ONTP

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

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This bill makes leaving a watercraft unattended in open water by a person a civil violation.

LD 442 An Act To Set Speed Limits for All-terrain Vehicles on Trails within 50 Yards of a Stream or Pond To Prevent Runoff ONTP

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

This bill prohibits the operation of an all-terrain vehicle at a speed of more than 15 miles per hour within 50 yards of a stream or pond, unless the ground is frozen and sufficiently covered with snow. It specifies that a person who violates this prohibition commits a civil violation, except that a person who violates this prohibition after having been adjudicated as having committed three or more violations of this prohibition within the previous five-year period commits a Class E crime.

LD 490 An Act To Give the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the Authority To Extend Any Trapping Season Based on Weather Conditions or Other Factors PUBLIC 19

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLACK R LANDRY S	OTP-AM	S-9

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to change a trapping season opening date if weather conditions make that change necessary.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-9)

This amendment replaces the bill. It gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to extend any open trapping season on any game species for up to 21 days if the commissioner has concerns about weather conditions or other unforeseen factors that may prevent publicly derived management goals from being met as long as the decision is based on sound scientific wildlife management principles.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 19 gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to extend any open trapping season on any game species for up to 21 days if the commissioner has concerns about weather conditions or other unforeseen factors that may prevent publicly derived management goals from being met as long as the decision is based on sound scientific wildlife management principles.

LD 525 An Act To Increase the Registration Fee for Snowmobiles for Residents ONTP

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

This bill increases the annual snowmobile registration fee for residents from \$45 to \$55.