

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

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

August 2025

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

LD 940 An Act to Increase the Maximum Cash Prize for the Long Lake Ice Fishing Derby

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 204 increases to two the number of fishing derbies in the State where the maximum total value of prizes may exceed \$100,000. Previously, the fishing derby held on Sebago Lake was the only fishing derby with this exception. Public Law 2025, chapter 204 establishes that the same exception exists for the Long Lake Ice Fishing Derby held in northern Aroostook County.

LD 971 An Act to Amend the Law Regarding the Checking of Baitfish Traps

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 205 amends the law regarding checking baitfish traps by increasing the amount of time permitted between baitfish trap checks from seven calendar days to 21 calendar days from November 1st to April 1st annually. Public Law 2025, chapter 205 also directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a report concerning this change to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by January 1, 2029 and authorizes the committee to report out a bill based on the report to the 134th Legislature in 2029.

LD 976 Resolve, to Establish a Working Group to Facilitate Public Access and Resilience Planning for Swan Island

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 100 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to convene a working group to develop a comprehensive plan to enhance public access to Swan Island in Perkins Township in Sagadahoc County. Resolve 2025, chapter 100 outlines the working group's duties and directs the working group to provide public notice for its meetings. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, on or before January 1, 2026, must submit a Swan Island public access plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.