

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
132<sup>ND</sup> 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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equipment. The law authorizes the landowner or the landowner's representative to remove, destroy, sell or possess the abandoned ladder, observation stand, camera or electronic surveillance equipment.

**LD 1763 An Act to Regulate Nonwater-dependent Floating Structures on Maine's Waters**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 378 implements a prohibition on the placement or use of a nonwater-dependent floating structure on internal waters of the State. “Nonwater-dependent floating structure” is defined to mean a waterborne structure that is supported wholly or partially by the structure's own buoyancy and that supports a nonwater-dependent use. “Nonwater-dependent uses” is defined as those uses that can function in a location other than the surface waters of the State and that do not require, for their primary purpose, location on submerged lands or direct access to internal waters. The prohibition includes exceptions for functionally water-dependent uses; swimming structures; water toys; ice fishing shacks; aquaculture facilities; authorized nonwater-dependent floating structures; preexisting nonwater-dependent floating structures; and other facilities and structures exempted through agency rulemaking. The law establishes criteria for authorized and preexisting nonwater-dependent floating structures. Public Law 2025, chapter 378 establishes penalties for violating the prohibition on nonwater-dependent floating structures.

Public Law 2025, chapter 378 also directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, by February 1, 2026, to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife with updated information on nonwater-dependent floating structures in the State and the implementation of the law. The report may include recommendations for statutory changes. The law authorizes the committee to report out a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.