

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1987

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL LICENSED GUIDES TO HAVE LVWD
233 CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION FIRST AID
CERTIFICATION.

Sponsor: JACQUES, Rotondi, Swazey
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: All Maine guides registered since 1980 have been required to complete a course in CPR while guides registered prior to 1980 have been grandfathered. This bill would have required all guides to complete the course regardless of when they were first registered. A study of laws and issues relating to registered guides enacted through LD 1339 will address this issue.

LD AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPEN SEASON ON BEAR. PL 1987
233 c. 171

Sponsor: JACQUES, Rotondi, Tammaro, McGowan
Committee Report: OTP

SUMMARY: This bill increased the length of the bear season by extending it to the first Monday preceeding September 1. This provision allows registered guides to book for an entire week of hunting rather than just a partial week. It is hoped this expansion will increase the harvest levels for bear as well.

LD AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE DEER SEASON. ONTP
291

Sponsor: SMITH, Weymouth, Webster C, Theriault
Committee Report: ONTP-OTP

SUMMARY: This bill sought to repeal the Department's doe permit system in favor of a three weeks buck, one week any sex season throughout the State. It also proposed opening the first day of the season only to residents.

The doe permit system has been in effect for one season. It is based on allocating doe permits over 17 zones. Some zones allow no doe-hunting. Permits for does are allocated by lottery. Proponents of the bill cited that too few permits are given out, the lottery system is expensive to run, the system has resulted in more landowners posting their land because they are not getting permits and that this system is not an effective management scheme.

Opponents to the repeal testified that this is the most effective means of managing the deer herd, most states are moving toward this strategy, it is the most flexible management tool to fine-tune the deer harvest and that one year was too short a time to judge the program. The Department testified that they will increase their allocation of permits in the future now that they have a better indication of hunter success rates.

The majority of the committee voted ought not to pass. The sponsor introduced a House amendment establishing four deer hunting zones to allow the commissioner to restrict the taking of doe within any of those zones, but it was not accepted.

LD AN ACT PERTAINING TO A TRAINING SEASON FOR
385 BEAR DOGS.

PL 1987
c. 177

Sponsor: JACQUES
Committee Report: OTP-AM
Amendments Adopted:
H-123 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: This bill authorizes a season for hunters to train their dogs for bear hunting. Currently, hunters must start the season without the benefit of trained dogs unless they train them out-of-state. Training in Washington and Hancock Counties was not allowed in deference to the blueberry season and possible conflicts with harvesters. The majority of the committee voted ought to pass with an amendment limiting the training to only four dogs.

LD AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A REPLACEMENT MOOSE
389 PERMIT WHEN INFECTED ANIMALS ARE TAKEN.

LVWD

Sponsor: GREENLAW
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This bill would have allowed a hunter registering an infected or parasitized animal a replacement permit to take an additional animal. Currently, the Department handles these situations on a case-by-case basis. The Committee felt that the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife should have a consistent policy for addressing this problem so that hunters will be treated equitably.

The Department responded by developing a policy to allow replacement permits for infected or parasitized animals discovered at registration. As a condition for withdrawing the bill, the sponsor also asked that Inland Fisheries and Wildlife specify on the license that all harvested meat should be properly cooked.