

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
113TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

MAY 1988

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Sen. Ronald E. Usher
Sen. Linda Curtis Brawn

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* Denotes Chair

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**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST & SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
MAY 1988**

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 for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are indicated as follows::

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

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Secretaries: Charlene Brann, Janet Jean, Earl Knox, Valarie Parlin; Research Assistant Hartley Palleschi. Finally, Secretary Lorette Knox, Legal Assistant Carolyn Chick, and Research Assistant Robert Dunn had special responsibilities in the preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MCGOWAN ROTONDI SMITH WEYMOUTH			

SUMMARY
New Draft Of LD 2380

Currently, Maine has two initiatives to control coyote populations: the Animal Damage Control Program and night-hunting of coyotes. With a permit from the department, a hunter can hunt coyotes until 9 pm from January to March. The original bill proposed to extend the season through April and allow hunting through the night.

In recognition that the commissioner could close the coyote night-hunting season in areas where this might conflict with enforcement of the prohibition on night and off-season hunting of deer, the committee voted to extend the season and to allow hunting through the night. The new draft also requires permit applicants to return a hunting survey to the department before their permits can be renewed. The new draft sunsets this legislation in 1991.

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
DUFFY JACQUES RUHLIN ERWIN E			

SUMMARY
New Draft Of LD 2271

Last year the Legislature endorsed emergency legislation which established a fish and wildlife education program for high school students. The law set up a two year pilot program to give ten students per year an opportunity to work on a day to day basis with department employees to learn the principles of fish and wildlife management.

The original bill proposed amending the program to allow sponsorship of an additional fifteen students by individual sporting clubs for this coming summer.

The new draft removed the emergency preamble to allow the program to continue at its current size for another year. It also allows the department to recommend the size of the program. The new draft also increases the age of participants from 15 to 16 years of age, requires clubs to apply to the department for approval and delays the effective date of these changes to 1989. The program's sunset date is removed and continuation of the program is to be considered annually by the commissioner in his report to the Joint Standing Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife.