

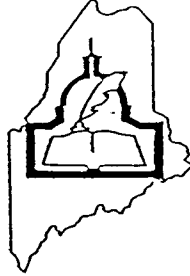
MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

JULY 1989

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Sen. Robert R. Gould

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* Denotes Chair

Staff: John R. Selser, Legislative Analyst

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1989

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 for 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 abbreviated 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 Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

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

Joint Standing Committee on Fisheries & Wildlife

LD 15 An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Licensed Maine Guides
(Reported Pursuant to Resolves of 1987, Chapter 105)

PUBLIC 53

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill contained the recommendations of the study by the Commission to Review the Laws Relating to Registered Maine Guides which was charged with examining the issues involved with developing a system for licensing outfitters and assistant guides. Although the commission was also charged with examining the issues surrounding licensing or registering outfitters, they felt that at this time there was no need for licensing outfitters.

This bill, as enacted, requires the department to hold guide examinations at regional headquarters when 10 or more applicants reside in that region; and requires the department to approve a curriculum for training Maine guides by March 1, 1990. The curriculum is to be developed by an advisory group consisting of all the interests that are involved in guiding or that may be affected by any recommendations.

LD 76 An Act to Regulate Personal Watercraft (Reported Pursuant to
Resolves of 1987, Chapter 111)

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill contains minority recommendations of the Special Commission on Boating, created by Resolve 1987, chapter 111.

This bill would have added restrictions on the use of personal watercraft, such as jet skis. Personal watercraft would be permitted only on coastal waters and on great ponds larger than 150 acres in surface area. Personal watercraft would have been banned on any section of water that is less than 3 miles across. An operator would have been required to be at least 16 years old and to have completed hands-on training before operating a personal watercraft. The noise level limits would have been tested at the peak sound emission, which is when the personal watercraft is bouncing over the water. No personal watercraft would have been permitted to operate within 200 feet of any other watercraft, including rafts, as well as any swimmer or the shore, except when the operator is leaving the shore to reach the area at least 200 feet from the shore. Within 200 feet of shore, however, the water safety zone restrictions would have required that the operator operate at no greater than headway speed. An operator could not have allowed the personal watercraft to continue to move if no one is operating it. Personal watercraft could not have been used to tow skiers, rafts, rubber tubes or other similar conveyances.

A violation of this law would have been a Class E crime.

See also LD 80.