

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

AUGUST 1991

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1991**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H - 584 or S - 222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
P&S XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
RESOLVE XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
CON RES XXX	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
EMERGENCY	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
CARRIED OVER	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
ONTP	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
LVWD	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
INDEF PP	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
VETO SUSTAINED	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
UNSIGNED	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	<i>Action incomplete when 1st session ended</i>

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

Joint Standing Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 43 An Act to Establish a Permanent License System for Older Citizens PUBLIC 17

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
ALIBERTI JACQUES	OTP-AM	H-26

SUMMARY

This bill makes fishing licenses issued to residents 70 years of age or older permanent. Currently, these licenses must be renewed every 2 years. The committee amendment (H-26) expands the bill so that the permanent complimentary licenses issued to residents over 70 years of age include hunting, trapping, archery hunting and muzzle-loaded hunting licenses. This amendment makes any permanent licenses invalid if the license holder no longer meets the residency requirements set out in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 7001, subsection 32. The amendment makes the bill effective on January 1, 1992.

LD 90 An Act to Prohibit Shooting from or across an Accepted Road ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MERRILL	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to prohibit hunting from an accepted road. An accepted road is a state, county or town road that is under the control of state, county or municipal authorities and maintained at public expense.

LD 106 An Act Regarding Possession of Certain Weapons, Implements or Aids PUBLIC 19

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
RICHARDS RUHLIN LEBOWITZ PRAY	OTP-AM	H-23

SUMMARY

This bill amends the hunting law prohibiting the use and possession of certain implements or aids by restricting the prohibition on possession of these implements or aids to situations involving hunting. The bill proposed to prohibits possession of a short-barreled shotgun. The committee amendment (H-23) clarifies the intent of the bill with regard to the provision concerning implements and aids, and it eliminates an exception from the prohibition created in the bill for silencers registered under the National Firearms Act. The committee amendment deletes the section relating to short-barreled shotguns.

LD 115 An Act to Amend the Special Archery Hunting Season Laws PUBLIC 94

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TWITCHELL	OTP-AM	S-65

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to change the statutory special bow hunting season for deer so that it would begin 30

days prior to the regular deer hunting season. The committee amendment (S-65) requires that the commissioner by rule establish a special archery season beginning at least 30 days prior to the regular season and extending to the beginning of the regular season. This amendment is designed to ensure that the opening of the special season for archery is not delayed past the existing October 1st opening date on those years when 30 days prior to the regular season falls on a date later than October 1st.

LD 124 An Act Relating to Archery Hunting Licenses LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TWITCHELL	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to require any person 16 years of age or older who hunts any wild animal or wild bird by bow and arrow during any open season on that animal or bird to possess a valid archery hunting license.

**LD 148 An Act to Amend the Law Concerning Failure to Wear a Flotation Device PUBLIC 28
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
HASTINGS TWITCHELL CARROLL J	OTP-AM	H-25

SUMMARY

Current law requires all persons to wear a flotation device when kayaking or canoeing on the Saco River between January 1st and June 1st. This bill proposed to extend that requirement to kayaking or canoeing on any of the waters of the State during that time period. The committee amendment (H-25) instead limits the applicability of the flotation device requirement to the most dangerous waters of the Saco River, those below the Hiram Dam. This bill was a companion bill to LD 149. (See LD 149.)

LD 149 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Operation of a Watercraft ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
HASTINGS TWITCHELL CARROLL J	ONTP	

SUMMARY

Current law requires wearing flotation devices when kayaking or canoeing on the Saco River between January 1st and June 1st. This bill proposed to repeal that requirement. This bill was a companion bill to LD 148. The attempt was to offer two approaches to the issue of requiring flotation devices: either eliminate it altogether, or expand it to apply State-wide.

LD 229 An Act to Prohibit Jet Skis on Small Inland Lakes (By Request) ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TWITCHELL	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to make the following a Class E crime: operating or attempting to operate a personal