

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

JULY 1993

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**JULY 1993**

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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:

<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<i>ENACTMENT FAILED</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</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.

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

4693NRG

## Joint Standing Committee on Fisheries & Wildlife

**LD 17**      **An Act to Prohibit the Use of Jet Skis on Great Ponds**      ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
STEVENS A                      ONTP

### **SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to add restrictions on the use of personal watercraft, such as jet skis. Personal watercraft would have been permitted only on coastal waters and on great ponds larger than 150 acres in surface area, except that personal watercraft would have been banned on any section that is less than 3 miles across. The noise level of the watercraft would have been tested at the peak sound emission, which is when the personal watercraft is bouncing over the water. No operator would have been permitted to operate at any speed within 200 feet of any other watercraft, including rafts, as well as any swimmer or the shore, except if the operator were 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 within 200 feet of shore.

**LD 31**      **An Act to Lower the Age at Which Residents Are Entitled to Complimentary Hunting and Fishing Licenses**      ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
ANDERSON                      ONTP

### **SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to lower the age at which complimentary hunting, trapping and fishing licenses are issued from 70 years of age to 65 years of age.

**LD 101**      **An Act to Amend the Laws Limiting the Number and Size of Fish Taken**      ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
LIBBY J L                      ONTP

### **SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to amend the section of law that deals with the number, amount, weight and size of fish by deleting the part that limits the size of the fish a person may take from Maine waters.

**LD 109**      **An Act to Improve Safety for Snowmobile and ATV Operators**      ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
WINN                      ONTP

### **SUMMARY**

Under this bill a landowner, lessee or occupant of land who has control over the placement of or continued existence of any potentially hazardous obstruction on that land would have been required to clearly mark the obstruction with fluorescent orange tape or flags. For purposes of this provision, "potentially hazardous obstruction" would have meant any man-made object, including cables, which are

strung, hung or otherwise suspended above the ground, any point of which is closer than 15 feet to the ground and under which a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle could potentially pass.

A violation of this provision would have been a Class E crime under the general penalties section of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, Part 10.

**LD 123      An Act to Amend the Archery Hunting Requirements**

**PUBLIC 24**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
CLARK

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-36

**SUMMARY**

This bill replaces and updates language in the fisheries and wildlife laws dealing with archery hunting licenses and associated restrictions.

The bill requires applicants for an adult archery hunting license to provide evidence of having previously held such a license or having satisfactorily completed an approved archery hunting education course. A person is no longer eligible to obtain an adult archery hunting license by virtue of having previously held a regular adult hunting license or having satisfactorily completed a regular hunter safety course.

The bill also establishes a prohibited act in the "prohibited implements" section of the general hunting laws making it clear that it is unlawful at any time to use or possess for purposes of hunting any arrow equipped with an explosive or poisonous tip. The current prohibition on these devices is addressed in the statutes only as a restriction or condition associated with an archery hunting license. The committee amendment (H-36) changes the effective date of the act to January 1, 1995 and makes certain technical corrections to the bill.

The bill would have required all persons 16 years of age or older to possess an adult archery hunting license in order to hunt with bow and arrow at any time during the year. It would no longer have been legal to hunt with bow and arrow outside the special archery season on deer with only a general hunting license. The committee amendment (H-36) struck this provision of the bill, preserving the status quo: an archery license is only required during the archery season.

**LD 165      An Act to Authorize the Hunting of Bobwhite Quail**

**ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
MARSH

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to establish bobwhite quail as a game bird species in the State and allow the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a hunting season for bobwhite quail.

**LD 179      An Act to Allow Hunting of Small Game Animals on Sundays**

**ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
LUTHER

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to allow the hunting of small game on Sundays during open seasons on small game.