

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

AUGUST 1995

MEMBERS:

**Sen. Stephen E. Hall
Sen. R. Leo Kieffer
Sen. Michael H. Michaud*

**Rep. Dorothy A. Rotondi
Rep. Paul F. Jacques
Rep. Herbert E. Clark
Rep. Robert Keane
Rep. Jon M. Rosebush
Rep. Robert L. Tufts
Rep. Ernest C. Greenlaw
Rep. Howard A. Chick
Rep. Royce W. Perkins
Rep. John Underwood*

Staff:

Patrick T. Norton, Principal Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

**Denotes Chair*



**Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

State House Station 13, Augusta, Maine 04333
Telephone (207) 287-1670
Telecopier (207) 287-1275

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

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION BEFORE
THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES**

AUGUST 1995

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing 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 publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, is helpful in determining to which committee any particular bill was referred.

In this document, 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, together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various categories of final action are abbreviated as follows:

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

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If more detailed information is needed on a bill, contact the committee analyst.

5581LHS

SPONSOR(S)

REED G

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-444

SUMMARY

The bill would have established a funding mechanism for the Landowner Relations Program by requiring hunters, anglers and trappers to purchase a landowner relations stamp. Proceeds from the sale of this stamp were proposed to go to a Landowner Relations Fund.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-444) replaces the bill. The amendment repeals the supersport combination hunting license and replaces it with provisions that allow a person to purchase a supersport hunting, fishing or trapping license for a \$15 fee paid in addition to the regular license fee. The amendment requires that the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife use 80% of those new fees for a Support Landowners Program targeted to improving landowner relations. The commissioner must use the remaining 20% of the revenues for the Sport Hunter Program targeted at combatting disrespect and misconduct and to improve the image of hunters. The amendment also adds an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 219 An Act to Allow Maine Residents over 70 Years of Age to Hunt Antlerless Deer

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

STEDMAN

COMMITTEE REPORT

ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**SUMMARY**

This bill would have allowed residents over 70 years of age to hunt antlerless deer without a permit.

LD 226 An Act to Strengthen the Laws Pertaining to Poaching

PUBLIC 346

SPONSOR(S)

JACQUES

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-458

SUMMARY

This bill would have increased the term of mandatory license revocation for a person convicted of any of the following fish and wildlife violations: hunting deer, bear or moose during closed season; night hunting; possession of wild animals or wild birds taken during night hunting; hunting deer after having killed one; hunting or trapping bear after having killed one; exceeding the bag limit on deer or bear; or illegal hunting or possession of moose.

The bill also would have required the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to notify the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and fish and wildlife officials of all adjacent states and Canadian provinces of any person whose Maine hunting and fishing licenses or Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife licenses are revoked for life.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-458) replaces the bill. The amendment makes mandatory suspensions of licenses issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for poaching violations effective upon conviction and nonmandatory suspensions for other types of poaching violations effective upon notification by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The amendment retains the minimum periods of mandatory suspension in current law but broadens the commissioner's authority to set the term for other suspensions. The amendment clarifies the hearing process available to a person whose license has been suspended.

The amendment allows the commissioner to dispose of weapons used in poaching violations after conviction without going through the libel process.

The amendment applies to poaching violations that occur after the effective date of the bill.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 244 An Act to Restrict the Use of Motorboats and Personal Watercraft on Certain Bodies of Water ONTP

| SPONSOR(S) | COMMITTEE REPORT | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| TRUE FERGUSON | ONTP | |

SUMMARY

This bill would have restricted the use of personal watercraft and motorboats with motors larger than 6 horsepower on certain bodies of water in the Town of Fryeburg.

LD 281 An Act to Reduce from 5 to 2 the Number of Ice-fishing Lines That May Be Fished by One Person ONTP

| SPONSOR(S) | COMMITTEE REPORT | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| O'DEA | ONTP | |

SUMMARY

This bill would have reduced from 5 to 2 the number of fishing lines allowed for ice fishing.

LD 356 An Act to Require Bird Hunters to Wear 2 Articles of Blaze Orange ONTP

| SPONSOR(S) | COMMITTEE REPORT | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| UNDERWOOD | ONTP | |

SUMMARY

This bill would have required hunters to at least 2 articles of hunter orange clothing while hunting game birds.

LD 357 An Act to Set Aside a Number of Moose Hunting Permits for Former Prisoners of War ONTP

| SPONSOR(S) | COMMITTEE REPORT | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DEXTER | ONTP | |

SUMMARY

This bill would have required the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to set aside 50 moose hunting permits for former prisoners of war.