

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

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

JULY 1997

MEMBERS:

Sen. Marge L. Kilkelly, Chair

Sen. Richard P. Ruhlin

Sen. Stephen E. Hall

Rep. Norman R. Paul, Chair

Rep. Ronald E. Usher

Rep. Joseph E. Clark

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Rep. Harry G. True

Staff:

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Maine State Legislature

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**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 1997**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the 15 Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature staffed by this office. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill, committee amendments and other relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken on the bill. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized alphabetically by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

- CARRIED OVER*.....*Bill carried over to Second Regular Session*
- CON RES XXX*.....*Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses*
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*.....*Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died*
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*.....*House & Senate disagree; bill died*
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....*One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill*
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*.....*Action incomplete when session ended; bill died*
- EMERGENCY*.....*Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days*
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....*Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote*
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....*Bill failed to get majority vote*
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*.....*Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote*
- INDEF PP*.....*Bill Indefinitely Postponed*
- ONTP*.....*Ought Not To Pass report accepted*
- OTP ND*.....*Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft*
- OTP ND/NT*.....*Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title*
- P&S XXX*.....*Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*
- PUBLIC XXX*.....*Chapter # of enacted Public Law*
- RESOLVE XXX*.....*Chapter # of finally passed Resolve*
- UNSIGNED*.....*Bill held by Governor*
- VETO SUSTAINED*.....*Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto*

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 26, 1997 and September 19, 1997 for the First Special Session.

David E. Boulter, Director

Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

Enacted law summary

Public and Special Law 1997, chapter 43 transfers \$10,000 in each fiscal year of the upcoming biennium from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's carrying account to that department's Bureau of Resource Management for the purpose of supplementing existing resources budgeted for the control of coyotes.

The amendment also requires that Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by April 1, 1999 on the total expenditures by the department for coyote control and the effectiveness of those expenditures on rebuilding the deer herd.

LD 152 An Act to Create a 3-Person Regional Fisheries and Wildlife CARRIED OVER
Advisory Council within Each Resource Management
Administrative Region

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> UNDERWOOD		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 152 proposes to reorganize the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council from 10 members based on county representation to 7 members selected from the resource management regions established by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

The bill also proposes to create a 3-member regional council within each resource management region for the purpose of enhancing local input into fisheries and wildlife issues of local and statewide interest. The member of the state advisory council from each region is a member and chair of that region's local council with the other 2 members of a regional council selected by the advisory council. Regional councils are required to hold at least 2 meetings each calendar year and to provide reasonable public notice of each meeting. All members serve without compensation.

The bill also proposes to repeal an existing provision of law granting the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife voting authority for the purpose of breaking a tie. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

LD 155 An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Hunting from a Public Paved PUBLIC 116
Way

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> FERGUSON		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-80
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LD 155 proposed to repeal the prohibition on hunting within 10 feet of the edge of the pavement on a paved way.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-80) proposed to clarify that the prohibition on hunting from or near a public paved way and possessing a firearm on a paved way apply to public paved roads.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 116 clarifies that the prohibition on hunting from or near a public paved way and possessing a firearm on a paved way applies only to public paved roads.

LD 176 **An Act to Reduce Snowmobile Registration Fees for Certain Nonresidents** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> JONES SL		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 176 proposed to allow the State to charge the resident a resident's snowmobile registration fee to a non-resident if the nonresident owns property in this State and purchased the snowmobile in this State or if the nonresident is a member of snowmobile club in this State.

LD 182 **An Act to Give an Antlerless Deer Permit to a Person Who Kills 5 or More Coyotes** **INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> HALL		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-65
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LD 182 proposed to give an antlerless deer permit to a person who kills 5 coyotes or more in a calendar year by hunting or trapping.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-65), the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, proposed that coyotes be tagged in order to be considered towards an antlerless deer permit and that one ear of a tagged coyote be removed and disposed of in the presence of the tagging agent. A \$1 fee must be paid to the tagging agent, of which 75¢ must be sent by the tagging agent to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The antlerless deer permit provision is offered in 1998 and 1999 and is repealed on December 31, 1999.

LD 183 **An Act to Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Provide Transportation Tags with Big Game Hunting Licenses** **PUBLIC 463**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> HALL		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-187
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LD 183 proposed that the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife include deer and bear transportation tags as part of big game hunting licenses issued after October 1, 1997.