

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

Rep. Matthew Dunlap

Rep. Albion D. Goodwin

Rep. Royce W. Perkins

Rep. Howard A. Chick

Rep. John H. Underwood

Rep. Ruel P. Cross

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 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.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-187) proposed that the provisions of the bill be effective for big game hunting licenses issued for calendar year 1998 and thereafter. It also adds an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 463 requires deer and bear transportation tags to be part of big game hunting licenses issued for calendar year 1998 and thereafter.

LD 191 **An Act to Require a Guide for Certain Nonresident Aliens Hunting in the State** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
AHEARNE PARADIS	ONTP	

LD 191 proposed to require that a nonresident alien be accompanied by a guide while hunting in this State. Persons who fell within this requirement could jointly hire a guide, provided that the total number of clients for any one guide did not exceed 3 persons.

Violation of this requirement is a Class E crime by operation of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 7901.

LD 203 **An Act Regarding Trap-tending Requirements** **PUBLIC 283**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PAUL HALL	OTP	H-400 PAUL

LD 203 proposed to change the trap-tending requirement for killer-type traps set in organized towns by requiring that these traps be tended at least once every 3 days. This change in the trap-tending laws will not apply to under ice water sets for beaver and muskrat during the winter months. Current law proposed to require that all traps set in organized towns, except under ice water sets for beaver and muskrat, be tended by the trapper at least once in every calendar day. In the unorganized townships, all foothold traps set on land must be tended each day, but killer-type traps and water sets need be visited only once in every 5-day period.

House Amendment "A" (H-400) corrects an error in punctuation.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 283 requires that all traps set in organized towns, except under ice water sets for beaver and muskrat, be tended by the trapper at least once in every calendar day. In the unorganized townships, all foothold traps set on land must be tended each day, but killer-type traps and water sets need be visited only once in every 5-day period. The bill changes the trap-tending requirement for killer-type traps set in organized towns and requires that these traps be tended at least once every 3 days. This change in the trap-tending laws will not apply to under ice water sets for beaver and muskrat during the winter months.