

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

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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:

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

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

The bill also proposed a one-time transfer of \$42,000 from the department's carrying balances account to reimburse the warden service for snowmobile enforcement expenditures that were in excess of the amount budgeted by the warden service for those purposes in fiscal year 1996-97. If that amount was not sufficient to fully reimburse the warden service for those costs, the bill proposed to authorize the State Controller to transfer additional money from the carrying balances account as necessary to fully reimburse the warden service.

This bill also proposed to require the department to budget for snowmobile enforcement activities at a level not less than the average snowmobile enforcement operations program expenditures in the previous 2 fiscal years.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-270), the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, proposed to strike the provisions in the bill that relate to resident snowmobile registrations and make technical changes to the bill to avoid conflicts with changes enacted earlier in the session by Public Law 1997, chapter 24.

House Amendment "A" (H-766) proposed to remove the emergency preamble and emergency clause and change the date by which the State Controller is required to transfer certain funds.

House Amendment "B" (H-756) proposed to authorize annual transfers from the Carrying Balance program to the General Fund as undedicated revenue.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 513 requires that seven percent of the non-resident snowmobile registration fee be used to supplement other appropriations to the Bureau of Warden Service for snowmobile enforcement, safety and educational purposes.

LD 746 An Act Concerning the Use of Leg Hold Traps for Coyote in the ONTP
Unorganized Territory

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CLARK	ONTP MAJ	
KIEFFER	OTP MIN	

LD 746 proposed to require leg hold traps set for coyote in unorganized or deorganized places to be checked at least once every 72 hours. Current law requires those traps to be visited at least once a day.

LD 751 An Act to Outlaw the Use of Eel Pots in Inland Waters CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEDMAN		

LD 751 proposes to prohibit the use of eel pots in inland waters beginning in 1998. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.