

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

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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

LD 1102

An Act to Provide Funding for the Enforcement of Snowmobile Laws

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
CHICK
KILKELLY

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1102 proposed to clarify that the increase in nonresident snowmobile registration fees, as enacted by Public Law 1995, chapter 467, must be used by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for enforcement of snowmobile laws by requesting that the nonresident snowmobile registration fee increases are credited to the General Fund and appropriated to Enforcement Operations - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, General Fund.

The bill proposed to appropriate \$42,000 in fiscal year 1996-97 to reimburse the Bureau of Warden Service for costs incurred for snowmobile enforcement activities that were in excess of the funds appropriated for that purpose in fiscal year 1995-96 and amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 7824, subsection 3 so that this appropriation will take place each year.

LD 1111

An Act to Protect Loons

PUBLIC 310

Sponsor(s)
CLEVELAND

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-202

LD 1111 proposed to prohibit the use and possession after January 1, 1998, of artificial lures and sinkers that contain any lead or zinc and that weigh less than 2 ounces or measure less than one inch along their longest axis.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-202) proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to allow the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to accept donations of money, goods or services for the purpose of educating the public about the threat to loons and other bird species from discarded or lost lead sinkers and lures.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 310 allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to accept donations of money, goods or services for the purpose of educating the public about the threat to loons and other bird species from discarded or lost lead sinkers and lures.

LD 1129

An Act to Allow Hunting License Vendors a 3% Fee for Nonresident Hunting Licenses Purchased with Credit Cards

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
DEXTER

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1129 proposed to allow clerks or agents who issue hunting licenses to charge an additional fee to nonresidents who use a credit card to purchase those licenses.