

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

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Rep. John H. Underwood

Rep. Ruel P. Cross

Rep. Harry G. True

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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 1248**An Act to Permit the Hunting of Birds on Sundays during a Specified Open Hunting Season****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
DUNLAP
KILKELLY

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1248 proposed to allow the hunting of partridge and migratory game birds, including waterfowl, from the 5th Monday preceding Thanksgiving to November 30th, including Sundays. The bill also proposed to allow the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, as well as the Governor, to close certain sections of the State to hunting.

LD 1262**An Act to Require Game Wardens, Biologists and State Officials to Wear Blaze Orange during Deer Hunting Season****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
UNDERWOOD

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1262 proposed to require game wardens and certain other state officials to wear hunter orange if they are in the woods during deer season acting in an official capacity and not participating in an undercover activity.

LD 1284**An Act to Preserve Inland and Coastal Waters and Beaches****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
PENDLETON R

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1284 proposed to prohibit the operation of a personal watercraft within an area marked or buoyed for swimming, prohibit the launching of a personal watercraft from a public beach and to establish regulations governing the use and operation of certain vessels in or near areas along the coast.

LD 1289**An Act to Amend the Hunting Laws As They Pertain to Proof of Prior Hunting License in Order to Be Exempt from Taking a Hunter Safety Course****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
RUHLIN
CLARK

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1289 proposed to recognize a prior hunting license, regardless of the year issued, as proof of competency for the purpose of obtaining a Maine license.