

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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

**JULY 1999**

***MEMBERS:***

***Sen. Marge L. Kilkelly, Chair***

***Sen. Richard P. Ruhlin***

***Sen. R. Leo Kieffer***

***Rep. Matthew Dunlap, Chair***

***Rep. Richard H. C. Tracy***

***Rep. Joseph E. Clark***

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***Rep. Kenneth A. Honey***

***Rep. A. David Trahan***

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**ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees**  
**August 1999**

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

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is organized 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](http://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  
*ENACTMENT FAILED*..... Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY*..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died  
*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 September 18, 1999.

**LD 287**

**An Act to Impose Stricter OUI Penalties on Operators of Watercraft, ATVs and Snowmobiles**

**PUBLIC 312**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMERON	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-509

LD 287 proposed to make the penalties for operating watercraft, snowmobiles and ATV's while under the influence of intoxicants or with an excessive blood-alcohol level the same as the penalties for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence. This bill also proposed to require a law enforcement official to secure the watercraft, snowmobile or ATV so the intoxicated person can not immediately use that vehicle.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-509)** proposed to increase the fines for operating a watercraft, ATV or snowmobile while under the influence of alcohol to equal the fine for motor vehicle OUI for a first offense, second offense and third or more offenses. The amendment proposed to remove from the bill the provision requiring a law enforcement officer to secure vehicles.

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1999, chapter 312 increases the fines for operating a watercraft, ATV or snowmobile while under the influence of alcohol to equal the fine for motor vehicle OUI for a first offense, second offense and third or more offenses.

**LD 296**

**An Act to Require Written Permission from Landowners for Hunting**

**ONTP**

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

LD 296 proposed to require that hunters of deer, moose or bear obtain written permission from land owners before hunting on privately owned property.

**LD 309**

**An Act Regarding the Funding of Search and Rescue Efforts by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KILKELLY DUNLAP	ONTP	

LD 309 proposed to require that search and rescue efforts conducted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife must be specifically budgeted for and paid by the General Fund.

**LD 310**

**An Act to Allow Children to Fish from the Banks of Rivers Designated as Quality Fishing Rivers** **CARRIED OVER**

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

LD 310 proposes that the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife list in its special fishing rules all rivers or river segments identified as quality fishing rivers. The bill proposes to require those rivers to be listed together and in one location in that rule book. Regardless of any other special regulations adopted by the department, the bill also proposes to open those quality fishing rivers to fishing during the open fishing season by children under 12 years of age who fish from the bank, using a single baited hook and line.

**LD 325                      An Act to Change the Time of the Moose Hunting Season                      ONTP**

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

LD 325 proposed to require the moose hunting season to occur during the third week of October.

**LD 326                      An Act to Allow a Person Who Possesses an Archery Hunting License to Shoot a Deer During the Regular Hunting Season                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P CARR	ONTP	

LD 326 proposed to allow a person who has killed a deer during the special archery season for deer to kill a second deer with a firearm during the regular firearm season for deer.

**LD 334                      An Act to Remove the Prohibition against Carrying a Loaded Hunting Weapon in a Motor Vehicle                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERKINS	ONTP      MAJ OTP-AM    MIN	

LD 334 proposed to allow a licensed or otherwise authorized hunter or trapper to carry a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle without a concealed weapons permit.

**LD 336                      An Act Regarding Exhibition of Licenses from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife                      PUBLIC 220**