

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

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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).

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 481

An Act to Keep Public Lands Open to Hunting, Fishing and Trapping

CARRIED OVER

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

LD 481 proposes to provide that hunting, fishing and trapping must be allowed on all nonreserved public lands, reserved public lands and undeveloped areas within state parks.

LD 486

An Act Regarding Fish Stocking

PUBLIC 416

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVAGE W	OTP-AM	H-607 H-665 DUNLAP

LD 486 proposed to require that the Bureau of Resource Management within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife adopt rules pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedure Act before stocking a water body that has not been stocked for 5 or more years or stocking a species of fish into a water body that has not previously been stocked into that water body.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-607) proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to require the Bureau of Resource Management in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to sponsor meetings at which regional fisheries biologists will discuss the management opportunities presented by the proposed changes regarding fish stocking and the information supporting the proposed changes, as well as to receive public comments about the proposals.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-665) proposed to clarify that when the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife determines there is a need to consider changing the long-term management objectives regarding fish stocking, the department must provide information regarding such a proposal to any person at that person's request.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 416 clarifies that when the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife determines there is a need to consider changing the long-term management objectives regarding fish stocking, the department must provide information regarding such a proposal to any person at that person's request. The law also requires the Bureau of Resource Management in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to provide their regional fisheries biologists at these meetings to discuss the management opportunities presented by the proposed changes regarding fish stocking and the information supporting the proposed changes, as well as to receive public comments about the proposals.

LD 513

An Act to Require Resident Moose Lottery Applicants to Hold Big Game Hunting Licenses

ONTP

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

LD 513 proposed to require residents of this State to possess a valid big game hunting license before entering the moose lottery.

LD 514 **An Act to Restrict a Landowner's Right to Kill Nuisance Animals** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DUNLAP		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 514 proposed to prohibit landowners from killing nuisance deer on their land if the landowner prohibits hunting on that land. This bill also proposed that landowners may only keep two nuisance deer killed and that all additional deer carcasses be donated to the Hunters for the Hungry Program.

LD 520 **An Act to Increase the Number of Moose Hunting Permits to 3,000** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PERKINS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 520 proposed to increase the number of moose hunting permits to 3,000. While the committee voted ONTP on this bill, the Legislature enacted P. L. 402, (See LD 667) which increases the number of moose permits to 3000 for the years 1999 and 2000.

LD 524 **An Act to Reauthorize and Expand the Special Archery Season on Deer** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> WHEELER G KIEFFER		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 524 proposed to reauthorize a special archery season on deer and expands the special archery season from September 1st to December 15th. This bill also proposed to allow the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt rules to allow an archery deer hunting license holder to take two or more deer in certain areas. While this bill was not enacted, the Legislature enacted public law 16, which reauthorizes the special archery season.

LD 536 **An Act to Improve Wild Game Transportation Laws** **PUBLIC 322**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KILKELLY DUNLAP		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-248
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LD 536 proposed to repeal the \$55 fee on residents who transport their deer or bear out of State, proposed to repeal the \$5 fee to have someone else transport those animals in this State and proposed to eliminate the requirement that nonresident hunters obtain a nonresident transportation permit before transporting a deer or bear out of State using someone other than a Maine licensed transportation company.