

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).

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 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.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-248) proposed to clarify that nonresidents may transport home any lawfully harvested wild animals or wild birds, and that nonresidents may have game transported home by another individual or common carrier provided that that nonresident is properly licensed and has obtained a no-cost transportation permit.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 322 repeals the \$55 fee on residents who transport their deer or bear out of State, repeals the \$5 fee to have someone else transport those animals in this State and clarifies that nonresidents may transport home any lawfully harvested wild animals or wild birds, and that nonresidents may have game transported home by another individual or common carrier provided that that nonresident is properly licensed and has obtained a no-cost transportation permit.

LD 561 **An Act to Allow Persons 65 Years of Age and Older to Shoot a Deer of Either Sex** **ONTP**

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

LD 561 proposed to allow a resident of the State who is 65 years of age or older to lawfully take an antlerless deer during the open season on deer.

LD 564 **An Act to Exempt Donnell Pond and Tunk Lake from Personal Watercraft Prohibition** **ONTP**

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

LD 564 proposed to repeal the prohibition on the use of personal watercraft on Tunk Lake and Donnell Pond, both in the Town of Hancock.

LD 577 **An Act to Allow Noncommercial Whitewater Rafting Clubs to Submit Names of Dues-paying Members Only** **PUBLIC 153**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WINSOR	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-192 H-224 CLARK

LD 577 proposed to allow a noncommercial whitewater rafting club to submit more than one amended membership list in any calendar year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-192) proposed to require noncommercial whitewater rafting clubs to submit only annual lists of dues-paying members and eliminates the requirement that only members whose names appear on the lists may participate in rafting trips. This amendment also proposed to require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters with regard to the impact of this legislation and safety and overcrowding concerns.