

# 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***

***Rep. Bruce S. Bryant***

***Rep. William R. Cote***

***Rep. Royce W. Perkins***

***Rep. Howard A. Chick***

***Rep. Harry G. True***

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

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

***Staff:***

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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 1830**                      **An Act to Provide Complimentary Hunting and Fishing Licenses to Persons on Active Military Duty and Low-cost Licenses to Their Families**                      **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> COWGER		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1830 proposes to provide a complimentary hunting and fishing license to a member of the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty whose home of record is Maine and a license to a family member for \$15, plus the issuing fee.

**LD 1904**                      **Resolve, to Study Issues Related to the Muzzle-loading Season**                      **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BUMPS		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1904 proposes to authorize a study within existing resources of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to address various issues relating to the muzzle-loading season.

**LD 1968**                      **An Act Concerning Recreational and Commercial Trapping**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SNOWE-MELLO		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1968 proposed to prohibit the trapping of fur-bearing animals, except for mice and rats and except when authorized by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It proposed to allow the commissioner to authorize a person to use a padded leg-hold trap to capture a nuisance fur-bearing animal if the person has attempted to utilize methods other than certain body-gripping traps and has failed to capture the animal. In addition, it proposed to allow government employees to use a padded leg-hold trap to protect threatened or endangered species, to protect human health or safety in extraordinary cases when the trap is the only method available or to conduct wildlife research approved by the commissioner or the United States Secretary of the Interior.

The bill also proposed to make a variety of technical changes to the inland fish and wildlife laws to reflect the proposed prohibition on trapping.

**LD 2017**                      **An Act to Allow the Taking of Endangered or Threatened Species Under the Authority of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**                      **PUBLIC 316**

Sponsor(s)  
KILKELLY  
DUNLAP

Committee Report  
OTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 2017 proposed to authorize the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to allow the taking of endangered or threatened species under certain circumstances when applicants have developed a plan to avoid or minimize the impact of their activities on species listed as threatened or endangered. The bill proposed to allow the department to approved the project, provided that the population of the listed species is not in serious jeopardy. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 316 authorizes the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to permit the taking of endangered or threatened species under certain circumstances when applicants have developed a plan to avoid or minimize the impact of their activities on species listed as threatened or endangered. The law allows the department to approved the project under these conditions, provided that the population of the listed species is not in serious jeopardy.

**LD 2028**

**An Act Pertaining to the Management of Atlantic Salmon**

**INDEF PP**

Sponsor(s)  
DUNLAP  
CATHCART

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
H-672

LD 2028 proposed to reorganize the existing Atlantic Salmon Authority by establishing the responsibility for the management of Atlantic salmon in a commission consisting of three members: the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Commissioner of Marine Resources, and an at-large public member appointed by the Governor. The bill proposed that the commission appoint an executive director.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-672)** proposed to reorganize the Atlantic Salmon Authority by establishing the responsibility for management of Atlantic salmon in a commission governed by a policy-making board consisting of three members: the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Commissioner of Marine Resources and an at-large public member appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The amendment proposed to expand the commission's duties to include protection, preservation, enhancement, restoration and management of Atlantic salmon as well as to secure a sustainable recreational fishery. The amendment proposed to have the commission administer the State's Atlantic salmon conservation plan.

The amendment proposed to have the advisory panels from river basin complexes representing the historical range of Atlantic salmon in the State to assist the Atlantic Salmon Commission in developing plans and programs.

The amendment proposed to give the commission responsibility for administration of the Atlantic salmon conservation plan. The amendment proposed that the executive director would be responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the Atlantic Salmon Commission.

**LD 2045**

**Resolve, to Establish the Citizens' Advisory Committee to Secure the Future of Maine's Wildlife and Fish**

**RESOLVE 86**