

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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

JULY 2000

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Sen. Richard P. Ruhlin
Sen. R. Leo Kieffer*

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
July 2000

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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:

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
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	Bill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT.....	Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

Committee Amendment "A" (H-883) was the majority report of the committee and proposed to extend until December 1, 2000 the deadline for municipalities to submit recommendations to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on great pond surface use restrictions. The amendment proposed that initial recommendation packages in 2000 may be submitted only during July, although material supplementing any municipality's recommendations may be submitted until December 1, 2000.

This amendment also proposed to require that towns include a written explanation of the rationale for each recommendation and an explanation of what issues were considered in the development of each recommendation and requires that in a town whose legislative body is the town meeting, recommendations may only be considered and approved during the annual town meeting held pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 2525.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-571) extended until December 1, 2001 the period during which municipalities may submit recommendations for regulating the use, operation and type of watercraft on great ponds.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 701, extends until December 1, 2001 the deadline for municipalities to submit recommendations to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on great pond surface use restrictions. Initial recommendations in 2000 may be submitted only during July, although material supplementing any municipality's recommendations may be submitted until December 1, 2001. Those recommendations will be considered by the Legislature in the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

This public law also requires that towns include a written explanation of the rationale for each recommendation and an explanation of what issues were considered in the development of each recommendation and requires that in a town whose legislative body is the town meeting, recommendations may only be considered and approved during the annual town meeting held pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 2525.

Public Law 1999, chapter 701 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 14, 2000.

LD 2386

An Act to Allow Deer Hunting with Local Approval in Certain Areas Previously Permanently Closed to Deer Hunting

PUBLIC 636

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDTHWAIT VOLENIK	OTP-AM	S-575

LD 2386 proposed to establish a deer hunting season in the Town of Cranberry Isles in order to address deer overpopulation of 5 islands in this community.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-575) proposed to replace the bill and change the title of the bill. The amendment proposed to clarify that a permit is required from the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in order for a person or persons to assist the commissioner in the taking and destroying of wildlife, repeal the requirement that special hunts take place between the close of the special muzzle-loading season

and January 31st and repeal the statutory prohibition on deer hunting in wildlife sanctuaries. The amendment also proposed to allow the commissioner to provide for an open season on deer in certain areas previously permanently closed to deer hunting if the affected towns approved of the opening. The amendment also proposed to allow, after July 1, 2001, deer hunting with shotgun or archery equipment on the Cranberry Isles under all applicable laws and regulations. The amendment also proposed to direct the commissioner to hold a depredation hunt for deer on the Cranberry Isles before holding any open season on those islands.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 636, clarifies that a permit is required from the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in order for a person or persons to assist the commissioner in the taking and destroying of wildlife, repeals the requirement that special hunts take place between the close of the special muzzle-loading season and January 31st and repeals the statutory prohibition on deer hunting in wildlife sanctuaries. This public law also allows the commissioner to provide for an open season on deer in certain areas previously permanently closed to deer hunting if the affected towns approve of the opening. The public law also allows, after July 1, 2001, deer hunting with shotgun or archery equipment on the Cranberry Isles under all applicable laws and regulations and directs the commissioner to hold a depredation hunt for deer on the Cranberry Isles before holding any open season on those islands.

LD 2468 An Act to Establish the Watercraft Enforcement Fund ONTP

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

LD 2468 was a concept draft which proposed to establish a Watercraft Enforcement Fund administered by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to be used to support boating enforcement.

LD 2579 An Act to Provide an Angling Season for Atlantic Salmon DIED BETWEEN BODIES

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

LD 2579 proposed to allow a person to angle for and release unharmed Atlantic salmon from Maine waters from May 1st to July 5th and from the Sunday before Labor Day to October 10th.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-590) was the minority report of the committee and proposed to replace the bill and to designate the Penobscot River upstream of the Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain Bridge connecting the cities of Bangor and Brewer, the St. Croix River and the Saco River as Atlantic salmon restoration rivers. The amendment also proposed to establish catch and release fly-fishing only seasons for Atlantic salmon on those rivers. The amendment also proposed prohibiting the Atlantic Salmon