

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

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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Maine State Legislature
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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

Resolve, to Create the Commission to Study Equity in the Distribution of Gas Tax Revenues Attributable to Snowmobiles, All-terrain Vehicles and WatercraftSponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments Adopted

S-778 MICHAUD

LD 2645 is a unanimous bill reported by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to a Joint Order.

The resolve proposed to create the 15-member Commission to Study Equity in the Distribution of Gas Tax Revenues Attributable to Snowmobiles, All-terrain Vehicles and Watercraft. The proposed duties of the commission are:

1. To undertake a comprehensive effort to collect and analyze all existing data regarding the amount and type of fuel purchased for and consumed within this State by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles and motorboats and of fuel purchased in this State for those vehicles and consumed outside the jurisdiction of this State. The commission shall identify areas where such information is either incomplete or out of date or has not yet been collected and shall undertake such research as is necessary and within its resources to collect and update that information;
2. Based upon an analysis of the data collected, to determine the percentage of gasoline taxes collected under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 2903 that is paid on gasoline consumed by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles and motorboats;
3. To assess the needs within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Conservation and the Department of Marine Resources for enforcement of existing snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle and watercraft laws; assess the capital needs for equipment or facilities for maintenance of trails or access to land or water; and determine how existing revenues received for snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle and watercraft programs are used within those departments;
4. To seek input from the public; and from organizations representing snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle and watercraft users, including the Maine Snowmobile Association, the University of Maine Agricultural Research Station and the Maine Marine Trade Association; and from other interested persons or organizations. In seeking that input, the commission shall, within its budgeted resources, hold its meetings in geographically diverse locations throughout the State;
5. To review a strategic boating plan developed by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Conservation and the Department of Marine Resources. Those departments are required to jointly prepare and submit to the commission a strategic boating plan that includes a plan for meeting the future freshwater and saltwater access and enforcement needs of the State; and
6. To collect other data and make such other recommendations as the commission considers appropriate on the issue of off-road fuel consumption.

The resolve proposed that the commission submit its report, along with any implementing legislation, to the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later than November 1, 2000. The bill also proposed an

appropriation for the per diem and expenses of legislative members of the commission and other expenses of the commission, including expenses for meeting notices and printing of the required report.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-778) proposed to strike and replace the bill and to clarify the appointment of members to the study commission.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 131 creates the 15-member Commission to Study Equity in the Distribution of Gas Tax Revenues Attributable to Snowmobiles, All-terrain Vehicles and Watercraft. The duties of the commission are to undertake a comprehensive effort to collect and analyze all existing data regarding the amount and type of fuel purchased for and consumed within this State by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles and motorboats and of fuel purchased in this State for those vehicles and consumed outside the jurisdiction of this State. The commission is required to submit its report, along with any implementing legislation, to the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later than November 1, 2000.

Resolve 1999, chapter 131 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 10, 2000.

LD 2670

An Act Regarding Lifetime Hunting and Fishing Licenses

**PUBLIC 690
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report
OTP

Amendments Adopted
H-1064 DUNLAP

LD 2670 is reported out unanimously by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to House Paper 1866.

The bill proposed to make lifetime hunting and fishing licenses available in January of 2001 for residents from 6 to 15 years of age, inclusive. The bill also proposed a sliding scale fee for the existing senior lifetime licenses and clarifies that persons 70 years of age or older remain entitled to a complimentary lifetime hunting and fishing license.

The bill also proposed that adult lifetime hunting and fishing licenses be available in January of 2006 for persons from 16 to 64 years of age and requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit its recommendations for a fee structure for such licenses to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters in January of 2005. That committee may then report out a bill to the first regular session of the 122nd Legislature to implement a fee structure for the adult lifetime hunting and fishing licenses.

House Amendment "A" (H-1064) proposed to strike the appropriation section and revise the fiscal note.

Enacted law summary

Public Law, chapter 690, makes lifetime hunting and fishing licenses available in January of 2001 for residents from 6 to 15 years of age, inclusive, creates a sliding scale fee for the existing senior lifetime licenses and clarifies that persons 70 years of age or older remain entitled to a complimentary lifetime hunting and fishing license.