

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

August 2000

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**120th Legislature
First Regular Session**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 2001**

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 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*
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is **September 21, 2001**.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 234

An Act Regarding Hunts of Nuisance Animals

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P SCHNEIDER	ONTP	

LD 234 proposed to allow only people whose land was open for hunting to obtain written permission from a game warden to employ agents to take and kill nuisance animals. This bill proposed to require people whose land was closed to hunting to apply to the game warden for a hunt to be conducted using hunters chosen by lottery. This bill also proposed to require the landowner to donate any excess carcasses after the first 2 carcasses of deer taken or killed to the Hunters for the Hungry Program.

LD 287

An Act to Allow the Use of Cage Traps for Bear

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SMITH MARTIN		

LD 287 proposed to allow a hunter to use cage traps to trap bear.

LD 315

Resolve, Directing the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis and the Office of the Revisor of Statutes to Prepare a Recodification of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws

INDEF PP

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

LD 315 proposed to direct the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis and the Office of the Revisor of Statutes to recodify the laws related to inland fisheries and wildlife.

LD 335

An Act to Change the Snowmobile Registration Laws

PUBLIC 424

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KILKELLY DUNLAP	OTP-AM	S-133

Under current law, a snowmobile may be operated in the State without being registered in the State if the snowmobile is registered in another area that grants Maine residents a reciprocal privilege. LD 335 proposed to

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

require all nonresidents who snowmobile in Maine to register their snowmobiles in Maine. This bill proposed to specifically exclude from this requirement snowmobiles and grooming equipment registered to snowmobile clubs, municipalities or counties and engaged in trail grooming activities.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-133) proposed to exclude federal and state snowmobiles and grooming equipment from the registration requirement and authorize the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to designate a weekend when snowmobiles registered out-of-state may be operated in Maine. The amendment also proposed to allow snowmobiles registered in New Hampshire or Canada to be operated on boundary ponds and lakes without being registered in Maine. It also proposed to add an appropriation and allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 424 requires all nonresidents who snowmobile in Maine to register their snowmobiles in Maine. Snowmobiles and grooming equipment registered to snowmobile clubs, municipalities or counties from a bordering state or province that are engaged in trail grooming activities are excluded from this requirement. Additionally, this Public Law excludes federal and state snowmobiles and grooming equipment from the registration requirement and authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to designate a weekend when snowmobiles registered out-of-state may be operated in Maine.

LD 347

**An Act to Amend Certain Provisions of Maine's Wild Turkey
Hunting Season**

PUBLIC 56

Sponsor(s)
HONEY
MARTIN

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-59

LD 347 proposed to repeal the specified dates for the State's wild turkey hunting season, instead allowing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish an open season. In addition, it proposed to clarify the law pertaining to eligibility to apply for permits to be consistent with moose permit applicants as well as giving the commissioner the authority to give special consideration to landowners, such as establishing a landowner permit drawing by rule.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-59) proposed to remove the requirement that alternative hunters be chosen to receive permits in the event selected hunters do not obtain their permits.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 56 repeals the specified dates for the State's wild turkey hunting season and allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish an open season. In addition, this Public Law clarifies the law pertaining to eligibility to apply for permits to be consistent with moose permit applicants as well as giving the commissioner the authority to give special consideration to landowners, such as establishing a landowner permit drawing by rule. Finally, this Public Law removes the requirement that alternative hunters be chosen to receive turkey permits in the event selected hunters do not obtain their turkey permits.