

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

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 199 makes several changes to the section of law that deals with nuisance animals and depredation permits for landowners, farmers and orchard owners. Specifically, Public Law 2001, chapter 199 requires that a wild animal be located within the crop or orchard where substantial damage is occurring before it can be harvested as a nuisance animal. This public law allows a person to employ someone outside of the immediate family to take or kill wild animals so long as that person first contacts a game warden to arrange for a person to alleviate the damage. Additionally, this public law prohibits certain persons from being eligible to receive permission to take or kill a wild nuisance animal.

Public Law 2001, chapter 199 provides that the cultivator, owner, mortgagee or keeper of the crop or orchard is entitled to ownership of the carcass, not the person who harvested the animal, and provides that the owner of the carcass may transfer possession of the carcass to another person in accordance with labeling requirements for deer, bear and moose. This public law limits the wild animals that must be properly cared for to deer, bear and moose. Finally, this public law authorizes the commissioner to issue a permit to a person entrusted with the custody of a beekeeper's beehives allowing that person to protect the beehives from bear damage.

LD 596 **An Act to Expand Youth Conservation Education Programs** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAYO KNEELAND	ONTP	

LD 596 proposed to provide for a percentage of revenue from the public chance drawing for moose hunting permits to be used to fund youth conservation education programs.

LD 625 **An Act to Compensate Citizens When Property is Seized Wrongfully and Damaged** **ONTP**

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

LD 625 proposed to require that if fish, wildlife or equipment seized by a game warden had been damaged or destroyed and the court found that the fish, wildlife or equipment was not possessed in violation of the applicable fish and wildlife laws, then the court would order that the claimant be reimbursed by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the value of the destroyed or damaged items.