

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

Committee Amendment "A" (H-565) is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland and Fisheries and Wildlife and proposed to provide the holder of a senior lifetime license who turns 70 years of age to privileges extended under a complimentary license. Additionally, the amendment proposed to allow a person 70 years of age or older who does not hold a senior lifetime license to purchase one that includes all of the additional privileges for \$8.

The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 351 requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to discontinue issuing a complimentary license to hunt, trap or fish to a resident over 70 years of age by January 1, 2006. This public law provides the holder of a senior lifetime license who turns 70 years of age to privileges extended under a complimentary license. Additionally, this public law allows a person 70 years of age or older who does not hold a senior lifetime license to purchase one that includes all of the additional privileges for \$8.

LD 735

An Act to Allow October Fishing

CARRIED OVER

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

LD 735 proposed to allow October fishing in certain counties in the State.

LD 736

**An Act to Require State Approval Prior to Introducing Wolves into
Maine**

PUBLIC 227

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNLAP MARTIN	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-348

LD 736 proposed to prohibit the release of wolves in the State without the prior approval of both Houses of the Legislature and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The bill also proposed to direct the commissioner to work with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that any recovery plan for the gray wolf in an area that includes the State includes a provision that allows the State to prohibit the introduction of the gray wolf within the borders of the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-348), which is the majority report of the committee, proposed to strike that portion of the bill that directed the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to work with the Federal Government to ensure that any gray wolf recovery plan allows the State to prohibit the introduction of the gray wolf within its borders. The amendment proposed to retain that portion of the bill that prohibits the release of wolves in Maine without prior approval of the Legislature and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 227 prohibits the release of wolves in the State without the prior approval of both Houses of the Legislature and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

LD 742 **An Act to Provide Fishing Access Signs** **ONTP**

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

LD 742 proposed to authorize the support landowners program of the landowner relations program in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to develop, distribute and erect signs that directed anglers to water access sites.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-345), the minority report of the committee proposed to amend the bill by adding an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 760 **An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Bear Baiting** **ONTP**

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

LD 760 proposed to amend the laws regarding bear baiting by adding language that clarified that a fee that was less than \$5 could be charged for the placing of bear bait. The bill also proposed to require that a person who placed bear bait would get permission in writing from the landowner. The bill proposed to prohibit the placing of a stand or blind within 300 feet from the bait and prohibited a person placing more than 10 bear baits at one time.

LD 761 **An Act Pertaining to Bear Hunting Permits** **CARRIED OVER**

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

LD 761 proposed to establish a new bear hunting permit that would have made the black bear hunting permit equivalent to that of other big game species and eliminated the system that allowed hunters to take a bear without a permit. Additionally, this bill would have established a mechanism that could be used in the future to better distribute bear hunting pressure.