

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 1422 proposed to allow an antlerless deer permit to transfer from the original holder to another licensed hunter if the other hunter shot an antlerless deer while hunting with the original holder.

LD 1464

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Suspension and Revocation of Hunting and Fishing Licenses

PUBLIC 331

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MUSE K FERGUSON	OTP-AM	S-218 CARPENTER

LD 1464 proposed to repeal provisions of law governing suspension and revocation of hunting and fishing licenses and would have directed the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt rules governing the suspension, revocation and reinstatement of these licenses by the commissioner.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-344) proposed to remove the total repeal of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 7077, subsection 1-A and would repeal only the provision in that section that requires a mandatory license revocation for hunting caribou. This amendment also proposed to remove the repeal of section 7077, subsection 1-B and amends that subsection to allow for twice the general bag limit for a species of fish and by removing the mandatory license revocation requirement for fishing by jigging. The amendment proposed to remove the requirement that a person whose license has been revoked must successfully complete a firearms training program or an ethics program before becoming eligible to obtain a new license. Additionally, the amendment proposed allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to waive or reduce mandatory minimum suspension periods established in statute under certain circumstances. The amendment also proposed to remove the total repeal of section 7077-A and proposes to require the commissioner to revoke a license of a person who is convicted of any violation under Title 17-A and sets minimum revocation periods. Finally, the amendment also proposed to repeal the prohibition on hunting and possessing caribou.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-218) proposed to replace the bill and remove the total repeal of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 7077, subsection 1-A and only repeal the provision in that section that requires a mandatory license revocation for hunting caribou. This amendment also proposed to remove the repeal of section 7077, subsection 1-B and amend that subsection to allow for twice the general bag limit for a species of fish and by removing the mandatory license revocation requirement for fishing by jigging. The amendment proposed to remove the requirement that a person whose license has been revoked must successfully complete a firearms training program or an ethics program before becoming eligible to obtain a new license. Additionally, the amendment proposed to allow the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to waive or reduce mandatory minimum suspension periods established in statute under certain circumstances. Further, the amendment proposed to require the commissioner to revoke a license of a person who is convicted of any violation under Title 17-A and sets minimum revocation periods. Finally, the amendment proposed to repeal the prohibition on hunting and possessing caribou.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 331 repeals the prohibition on hunting and possessing caribou and repeals mandatory license revocation for hunting caribou. This Public Law removes the requirement that a person whose license has been revoked must successfully complete a firearms training program or an ethics program before becoming eligible to obtain a new license. Additionally, this Public Law allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to

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waive or reduce mandatory minimum suspension periods established in statute under certain circumstances and requires the commissioner to revoke a license of a person who is convicted of any violation under Title 17-A and sets minimum revocation periods. This Public Law also allows for twice the general bag limit for certain species of fish and removes the mandatory license revocation requirement for fishing by jigging.

LD 1500 **An Act to Require Proof of Health Insurance for Operators of ATVs and Snowmobiles** **ONTP**

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

LD 1500 proposed to require operators of snowmobiles and ATVs to maintain health insurance. Those operators that failed to maintain health insurance would have committed a civil violation subject to forfeiture of not less than \$100 or more than \$500.

LD 1519 **An Act to Allow Children Less than 16 Years of Age to Hunt, Fish and Trap without a License** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P	ONTP MAJ	
CARR	OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1519 proposed to eliminate all references to junior hunting licenses and allow children under 16 years of age to hunt without a license, in the presence of an adult.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-143) proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1574 **An Act to Establish the Maine Boating Safety Advisory Council** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAWYER	ONTP MAJ	
COWGER	OTP MIN	

LD 1574 proposed to establish the Maine Boating Safety Advisory Council designed to advise and provide policy recommendations to the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on boating safety and education matters. The commissioner would solicit a person from each of the following organizations to serve on the council: the United States Coast Guard; the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; the Department of Marine Resources; the State Planning Office; the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary; a boating safety and navigation education organization; a harbor master association; a statewide organization promoting marine fishing and boating; a state or regional association designed to protect lakes; a