

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

Staff:

Curtis C. Bentley, Principal Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670*

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**Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

**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

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> GOLDTHWAIT	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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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> DAVIS P CARR	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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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> SAWYER COWGER	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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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

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statewide organization promoting hunting and freshwater fishing; a statewide organization promoting paddle sports; and a statewide organization representing professional guides or instructors or both. Additional members could be added to the council upon petition by the prospective member and approval by the council. Each member would select a representative to serve on the council every 2 years. A representative would be able to serve no more than 3 consecutive terms. Representatives would choose a chair each year and a representative would not be able to serve more than 2 consecutive years as chair. At all times the council would be required to have a simple majority of nonstate and nonfederal members. Representatives would receive no compensation except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred pursuant to their duties as council representatives unless otherwise compensated by their organizations.

LD 1577 **An Act to Encourage New Hunters** **ONTP**

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

LD 1577 proposed to allow a person who had never taken a deer and who held an original deer hunting license to take a deer of either sex during open season for deer in the first year that the person held a license, until the person tagged their first deer.

LD 1579 **An Act to Clarify the Unlawful Use of Snowmobile Trails** **PUBLIC 289**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-176

LD 1579 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposed to reduce the unauthorized use of licensed snowmobile trails by all-terrain vehicles and other unauthorized users.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-176) is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It proposed to clarify that it is unlawful to operate a motor vehicle other than a snowmobile and appurtenant equipment at any time of the year on a snowmobile trail that is financed in whole or in part with funds from the Snowmobile Trail Fund. The amendment would have added a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 289 clarifies that it is unlawful to operate a motorized vehicle other than a snowmobile and appurtenant equipment at any time of the year on a snowmobile trail that is financed in whole or in part with funds from the Snowmobile Trail Fund.