

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

May 2002

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120th Legislature
Second Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 2002

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 arranged alphabetically by committee name 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:

| | |
|---|--|
| <i>CON RES XXX</i> | <i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i> |
| <i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i> | <i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i> |
| <i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i> | <i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i> |
| <i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i> | <i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i> |
| <i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i> | <i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i> |
| <i>EMERGENCY</i> | <i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i> |
| <i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> | <i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i> |
| <i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> | <i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i> |
| <i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i> | <i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i> |
| <i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i> | <i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i> |
| <i>INDEF PP</i> | <i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i> |
| <i>ONTP</i> | <i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i> |
| <i>OTP ND</i> | <i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i> |
| <i>OTP ND/NT</i> | <i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</i> |
| <i>P&S XXX</i> | <i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i> |
| <i>PASSED</i> | <i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i> |
| <i>PUBLIC XXX</i> | <i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i> |
| <i>RESOLVE XXX</i> | <i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i> |
| <i>UNSIGNED</i> | <i>Bill held by Governor</i> |
| <i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> | <i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i> |

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is July 25, 2002.

Patrick T. Norton, Interim Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

permit in that state. The out-of-state big game permit would be awarded to a resident of this State through a free lottery system.

LD 735 **An Act to Allow October Fishing** **ONTP**

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

LD 735 proposed to allow October fishing in certain counties.

LD 761 **An Act Pertaining to Bear Hunting Permits** **ONTP**

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

LD 761 proposed to establish a new bear hunting permit that would be required for all bear hunters beginning in 2002. This bill would:

1. Make the black bear hunting permit equivalent to that of other big game species;
2. Eliminate a system that had allowed many hunters to take a bear without a permit; and
3. Establish a mechanism that could be used in the future to better distribute bear hunting pressure.

LD 1861 **An Act to Restrict the Use of Motors Greater than 10 Horsepower on Certain Ponds in Chain of Ponds Township in Franklin County** **ONTP**

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> GOOLEY | | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|

LD 1861 proposed to prohibit the operation of a watercraft equipped with a motor greater than 10 horsepower on Natanis Pond, Long Pond, Bag Pond or Lower Pond in Chain of Ponds Township.

LD 1895 **An Act to Clarify the Lines of Effort in a Search and Rescue Operation** **ONTP**

| | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> CATHCART DUNLAP | | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 1895, a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposed to authorize local fire and police departments, local medivac and dive teams and other similar organizations to become involved in search and rescue efforts as first responders.

LD 1923 **An Act to Amend Maine's Wild Turkey Hunting Season** **PUBLIC 655
EMERGENCY**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| NUTTING J | OTP-AM | H-1076 DUNLAP S-430 |

LD 1923 proposed to repeal language in the statute that restricts the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife from establishing a fall wild turkey hunting season. This bill also proposed to add wild turkeys to the statutes dealing with substantial damage by wild animals.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-430), which was adopted as amended by House Amendment "A," proposed to remove the prohibition on using electronic calling devices while hunting wild turkey.

The amendment proposed to delay the effective date for the imposition of wild turkey hunting permit fees to July 1, 2002. It also proposed to add an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-1076), which was adopted, proposed to remove the prohibition on using electronic turkey calls and make the repeal of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 7469, subsection 11 effective June 5, 2002.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 655 authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to from establish a fall wild turkey hunting season and removes the prohibition on using electronic turkey calls. It also adds wild turkeys to the statutes dealing with nuisance wild animals.

Public Law 2001, chapter 655 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 10, 2002.

LD 1929 **An Act to Stabilize the Funding of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife** **PUBLIC 690**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DUNLAP | OTP-AM A | H-1021 |
| CARPENTER | ONTP B | H-1061 DUNLAP |
| | OTP-AM C | S-600 GOLDTHWAIT |

LD 1929 proposed to increase various hunting and fishing license and permit fees. This bill also proposed to establish a program that requires the cost of providing general fish-related and wildlife-related benefits are equitably shared between the General Fund and license fees.