

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
123<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES  
AND WILDLIFE**

July 2007

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# STATE OF MAINE

123<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

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:

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 (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP-ND.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PASSED.....	Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 that the effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

# Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

**LD 485      An Act To Provide Free Turkey Hunting Permits to Maine Residents 80 Years of Age or Older**

**ONTP**

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

LD 485 allows a resident 80 years of age or older to obtain a complimentary turkey hunting permit.

**LD 486      An Act To Establish an Apprenticeship Hunter License Program**

**PUBLIC 203**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RICHARDSON W	OTP-AM	H-238

LD 486 creates an apprenticeship hunter license, patterned after the junior hunting license, which allows a person without a hunting license to hunt under the supervision of a person who holds a valid hunting license or has passed a qualified hunter safety course.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-238)**

This committee amendment modifies the apprenticeship hunter license restriction provisions of the bill to:

1. Remove provisions that allow a person who does not hold a Maine hunting license but has passed a hunter safety course to serve as a supervisor to an apprentice hunter;
2. Increase the fine for a person hunting under an apprenticeship hunter license without being in the presence of a supervisor from a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 to a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$1,000;
3. Provide that a supervisor must have held a hunting license for the prior 5 years to be eligible to be a supervisor and that the supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the apprentice hunter follows safe hunting protocol and hunting laws;
4. Provide that a supervisor may not intentionally permit a person hunting under an apprenticeship hunter license with that supervisor to hunt outside of that supervisor's presence and make a violation of that requirement a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$500 must be imposed;
5. Provide that a person is eligible to hold an apprenticeship hunter license only once and that the license expires on December 31st;
6. Provide that a resident and a nonresident big game apprenticeship hunter license each includes a bear hunting permit and a wild turkey hunting permit and that the resident license costs \$21 and the nonresident license costs \$102; and
7. Provide for a nonresident small game apprenticeship hunter license for \$67.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2007, chapter 203 creates resident and nonresident apprenticeship hunter license, patterned after the

## *Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

junior hunting license, which allows a person without a hunting license to hunt under the supervision of a person who holds a valid hunting license. A person is eligible to hold an apprenticeship hunter license only once and the license includes a bear hunting permit and a wild turkey hunting permit. To be eligible to be a supervisor, a person must hold a valid hunting license and must have held a hunting license for the prior 5 years. Public Law 2007, chapter 203 also provides that the supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the apprentice hunter follows safe hunting protocol and hunting laws and provides penalties for a supervisor that intentionally permits a person hunting under an apprenticeship hunter license with that supervisor to hunt outside of that supervisor's presence.

**LD 503      An Act Regarding the Authority of the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Issue Licenses to Beagle Clubs To Trap Snowshoe Hares**

**PUBLIC 45  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL	OTP-AM   MAJ ONTP   MIN	H-35

LD 503 authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue a permit to a beagle club to take live snowshoe hares for use by that beagle club.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-35)**

This committee amendment rewords the bill to conform to the standard language for prohibited acts under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, Part 13. It also provides civil penalties for violations regarding the trapping of snowshoe hares by beagle clubs.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2007, chapter 45, authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue a permit to a beagle club to take live snowshoe hares for use by that beagle club.

Public Law 2007, chapter 503 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 12, 2007.

**LD 504      An Act To Require the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Reserve 250 Moose Permits for Residents Who Have Never Received One**

**ONTP**

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

LD 504 requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to reserve 250 moose permits for resident applicants who have never issued a moose permit.

**LD 539      An Act To Ban Personal Watercraft on East Carry Pond, Middle Carry Pond and West Carry Pond**

**ACCEPTED ONTP  
REPORT**

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

LD 539 prohibits the operation of personal watercraft on East Carry Pond, Middle Carry Pond and West Carry Pond in Carrying Place Township, T2 R3 BKP WKR in Somerset County.