

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON MARINE RESOURCES

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STATE OF MAINE

123RD 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 123rd 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 Marine Resources

LD 691

An Act To Reduce Lobster and Crab Fishing License Fees for Persons 70 Years of Age or Older

PUBLIC 138

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EATON	OTP-AM	H-154

Currently a person 70 years of age or older is eligible to pay a fee of \$56 for a lobster and crab fishing license. If that individual wants a helper, the fee increases to \$228.50. LD 691 decreases the fee for a Class II license, which allows for the hiring of a helper, from \$228.50 to \$145 for a person 70 years of age or older.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-154)

This committee amendment replaces the bill and reduces by approximately 50% the fees for Class I, II and III lobster and crab fishing licenses and the surcharges on those licenses for applicants 70 years of age or older.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 138 reduces by approximately 50% the fees for Class I, II and III lobster and crab fishing licenses and the surcharges on those licenses for applicants 70 years of age or older.

LD 784

An Act To Enhance the Natural Resources Protection Laws

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

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

Current law requires a person seeking to conduct aquaculture activities in the coastal waters of the state to go through a lease application process administered by the Department of Marine Resources but exempts that person from also undergoing the permitting process under the Natural Resources Protection Act. LD 784 amends the law to require a person applying for an aquaculture lease to also obtain a permit from the Department of Environmental Protection under the Natural Resource Protection Act.

LD 796

An Act To Create the Endangered or Threatened Marine Species Fund

PUBLIC 25

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAMON	OTP-AM	S-12

LD 796 authorizes the Department of Marine Resources to accept donations of equipment and funding from any source to assist with its work on behalf of endangered or threatened marine species.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-12)

This committee amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 25 allows the Department of Marine Resources to accept donations of equipment and funding from any source to assist with its work on behalf of endangered or threatened marine species.