

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 INLAND FISHERIES
AND WILDLIFE**

July 2007

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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 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

LD 826 An Act To Protect Inland Waters and Property Owners

ONTP

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

LD 826 is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

LD 826 proposes to improve the process for getting permits from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for events on lakes. The process will provide for local input and clear guidelines, especially for denials of permits.

LD 865 An Act To Increase the Number of Disabled Veterans That Are Eligible for Complimentary Lifetime Licenses and To Create the Search and Rescue Fund

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLETT	OTP-AM	H-540

LD 865 provides veterans or enlisted members of the United States Armed Forces, the Reserves of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard who have served or are currently serving in Iraq or Afghanistan or other location associated with the global war on terrorism discounts on hunting and fishing licenses. It also establishes a Search and Rescue Fund and provides for a General Fund allocation into that fund in an amount that offsets the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's loss of revenue due to the discounted hunting and fishing licenses.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-540)

This committee amendment changes the title of the bill to "An Act to Increase the Number of Disabled Veterans That are Eligible for Complimentary Lifetime Licenses and to Create the Search and Rescue Fund." It replaces the provision of the bill proposing to provide discounted license fees for certain veterans with language that increases the number of disabled veterans that are eligible to receive complimentary lifetime licenses and permits to hunt, fish, trap and guide by reducing the level of disability needed to qualify from 100% for noncombat military and 70% for combat-related disability to 50% or more disability for all veterans. It also clarifies the definition of "veteran" and how the loss of revenues to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for providing these complimentary licenses to be reimbursed from the General Fund. This committee amendment changes the allocation of the laws establishing the Search and Rescue Fund in order to avoid creating a conflict.

LD 887 An Act To Reduce Watercraft Noise Levels on Lakes

ONTP

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

LD 887 reduces the permissible stationary sound level of watercraft and airmobiles from 90 decibels to 85 decibels and permissible operational sound level from 75 decibels to 70 decibels.