

# 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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**STAFF:**

CURTIS C. BENTLEY, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670

# 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 888 An Act To Clarify the Definition of "Personal Watercraft"**

**PUBLIC 169**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS J BRYANT B	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-153

LD 888 exempts a motorized watercraft that is not capable of being operated in excess of 15 miles per hour and does not generate an unreasonable amount of noise from the definition of "personal watercraft" in the laws governing inland fisheries and wildlife.

### Committee Amendment "A" (H-153)

This committee amendment removes the requirement from the bill that the watercraft not be capable of being operated in excess of 15 miles per hour and replaces it with the requirement that the watercraft not have a horsepower rating greater than 15 horsepower.

### Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 169 exempts a motorized watercraft that does not have a horsepower rating greater than 15 horsepower and does not generate an unreasonable amount of noise from the definition of "personal watercraft" in the laws governing inland fisheries and wildlife.

**LD 932 Resolve, To Study Incentives To Encourage All-terrain Vehicle Registrants To Join Local All-terrain Vehicle Clubs**

**RESOLVE 104**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HOTHAM	OTP-AM	H-410

LD 932 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to study incentives, including possible financial incentives, to encourage all-terrain vehicle registrants to join local all-terrain vehicle clubs and to submit a report and any recommended legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature no later than December 5, 2007.

### Committee Amendment "A" (H-410)

This committee amendment replaces the resolve and directs the Department of Conservation to convene a stakeholders group that includes representatives of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Alliance of Trail Vehicles of Maine and other interested parties to study possible incentives, including financial incentives, to encourage all-terrain vehicle registrants to join local all-terrain vehicle clubs. It directs the Department of Conservation to report the findings and recommendations and any proposed legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than December 5, 2007. It also authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit legislation related to that report to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

### Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 104 directs the Department of Conservation to convene a stakeholders group that includes representatives of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Alliance of Trail Vehicles of Maine and other interested parties to study possible incentives, including financial incentives, to encourage all-terrain vehicle registrants to join local all-terrain vehicle clubs. It directs the Department of Conservation to report the findings and recommendations and any proposed legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland

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

Fisheries and Wildlife no later than December 5, 2007. It also authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit legislation related to that report to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

### **LD 982      An Act To Encourage Youth Hunting**

**ONTP**

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

LD 982 allows a person who takes a deer on youth deer hunting day to take one additional deer during other open deer seasons. It also allows a person who takes a turkey on youth spring wild turkey hunting day to take an additional turkey during turkey hunting season.

### **LD 1045      An Act To Extend the Coyote Night Hunting Season**

**PUBLIC 242**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-295

LD 1045 establishes the coyote award program. It also increases hunting license fees by \$1 and directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to use the funds collected from the increase in hunting license fees for the coyote award program and the animal damage control program.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-295)**

This committee amendment replaces the bill and extends the night hunting season for coyotes by just over one month. The current night hunting season for coyotes runs from January 1st to April 30th and this amendment changes that season to January 1st to June 1st.

#### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2007, chapter 242 extends the night hunting season for coyotes by just over one month. The current night hunting season for coyotes runs from January 1st to April 30th and this amendment changes that season to January 1st to June 1st.

### **LD 1080      An Act To Increase Public Participation in the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board**

**ONTP**

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

LD 1080 prohibits a specific state sportsmen's organization or a specific state wildlife conservation organization from being represented on the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board for more than 2 consecutive 4-year terms without a break in service.