

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature coming from the

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

July 2009

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# STATE OF MAINE

124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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## 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 124<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

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:

CARRIED OVER.....	Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
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; bill died
ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
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

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Legislature is September 12, 2009. 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 70**

## **An Act To Amend the Length Limits on Fish Caught on the Inland Waters**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P TRAHAN	ONTP	

LD 70 requires that length limits established for fish taken from any inland body of water of the State are the same during the open-water fishing season and when waters have been opened for ice fishing by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for that body of water.

**LD 85**

## **An Act To Simplify and Consolidate Maine's Fishing Laws and Rules**

**PUBLIC 214**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOOLEY	OTP-AM	S-128

LD 85 makes changes to the laws governing the season framework for open water and ice fishing to facilitate the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's simplifying and consolidating of open water and ice fishing seasons.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (S-128)**

This amendment replaces the bill and amends the fishing laws to:

1. Exempt the rules adopted for open-water fishing and ice fishing from the 150-day limit for review by the Attorney General;
2. Repeal the prohibition on ice fishing at night;
3. Add drop nets to the list of fishing implements that are illegal to possess on or adjacent to inland waters except as otherwise provided in law;
4. Give the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the ability to set, by rule, the open season for fishing in certain waters;
5. Exempt smelt wholesale dealers from using certain fishing implements to harvest smelts that are otherwise illegal;
6. Repeal the requirement that rules adopted by the commissioner that set forth the special fishing regulations for inland waters must include a list of waters where a person under 12 years of age may fish with a single-baited hook and line;
7. Authorize the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to stock Big Reed Pond in Piscataquis County with native fish species;
8. Remove language concerning the continued closed season on the dipping of smelts from Morrill Pond and its tributaries in Somerset County;