

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON MARINE RESOURCES

July 2011

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND
ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 125th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD 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 LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

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; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCY..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX..... chapter # of enacted public Law
RESOLVE XXX..... chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature is September 28, 2011. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources

Public Law 2011, chapter 421 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 6, 2011.

LD 244 Resolve, Directing the Department of Marine Resources To Extend the Carrier Vessel Size Limit in the Menhaden Pilot Program ONTP

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

LD 244 directs the Department of Marine Resources to amend its rules for the menhaden pilot program to expand the carrier vessel size from 90 feet to 120 feet.

LD 307 An Act To Encourage Lobstering Traditions and Facilitate Retirement from Lobstering MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

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

LD 307 authorizes the transfer of a Class I, Class II or Class III lobster and crab fishing license by the license holder to that person's child under certain circumstances. The child who is receiving the license by transfer must have lobstered in Maine for 5 years, maintained Maine residency for at least 10 years and completed a Department of Marine Resources apprentice program for entry into the lobster fishery. The license holder and the transferee must notify the department in writing of the transfer. It also adds a provision to limit a recipient of a license by transfer to 300 traps in the initial year and an increase of 100 traps each subsequent year up to the trap limit.

LD 308 An Act Regarding the Saltwater Recreational Fishing Registry MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

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

LD 308 repeals the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6312 establishing the saltwater recreational fishing registry and Title 12, section 6032 establishing the Marine Recreation Fishing Conservation and Management Fund and does the following.

1. It provides for voluntary saltwater recreational fishing registration.
2. It directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to work with the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a system that allows a person to register on the voluntary saltwater fishing registry online, by checking a box on a freshwater fishing license or watercraft registration or by mailing in a postcard distributed by the departments.

Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources

3. It prohibits the establishment of a fee for registering on the saltwater recreational fishing registry and directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to administer the saltwater recreational fishing registry within the departments' existing resources.

LD 319 An Act To Amend the Saltwater Recreational Fishing Registry ONTP
Regarding Unauthorized Landing or Possession of Striped Bass

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

Currently, a saltwater angler may not land or possess striped bass without a striped bass endorsement under the saltwater recreational fishing registry laws or a valid freshwater fishing license. LD 319 provides that the incidental landing or possession of striped bass is not prima facie evidence of a violation.

LD 210 eliminates the striped bass endorsement from the saltwater recreational fishing registry laws.

LD 337 An Act To Make Technical Changes to Aquaculture Laws PUBLIC 93

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACDONALD	OTP-AM	H-106

LD 337 makes the following changes to the aquaculture statutes.

1. It repeals the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6072, subsection 8-A, regarding preference for limited-purpose lease areas, and integrates the preference for limited-purpose leaseholders into the list of preferences in Title 12, section 6072, subsection 8. It also makes clear that the standard lease can be for the same area or a portion of the same area covered by the experimental lease.

2. It removes the requirement that the Commissioner of Marine Resources hold a public hearing before deciding whether to renew a limited-purpose lease for scientific research and instead provides for a hearing at the commissioner's option or at the request of 5 or more people.

3. It combines the research and aquaculture lease renewal provisions in a single subsection and makes the renewal requirements consistent among the various types of aquaculture leases. It provides that submitting a renewal application to the Department of Marine Resources is sufficient to extend the existing lease until a decision is reached on the renewal. It eliminates the confusion in the existing language about whether the application first has to be reviewed by the department and found to be complete in order to trigger this lease extension.

4. It makes it clear that simply submitting an application for a standard lease under Title 12, section 6072 for an area or a portion of an area already covered by a limited-purpose lease before the limited-purpose lease expires is sufficient to extend the limited-purpose lease pending a decision on the new application. It eliminates the confusion in the existing language about whether the application has to be reviewed by the department and found to be complete in order to trigger this lease extension. The bill also makes it clear that the standard lease can be for the same area or for a portion of the same area already covered by the limited-purpose lease.