

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

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

July 2011

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STATE OF MAINE  
125<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 LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 125<sup>th</sup> 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 125<sup>th</sup> 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 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife***

**LD 468      An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Bear Hunting**

**PUBLIC 309**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOOD	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-443

This bill amends the bear hunting and trapping laws as follows:

1. It shifts the open season for hunting bears with dogs back one week to reduce the overlap with the open season on hunting bears without dogs;
2. It prohibits a person from establishing a bait site on another person's land without first having the written permission of the landowner;
3. It provides that a person may not train dogs on bear within 7 days of the starting date of the open hunting season on bear. Current law allows a person to train dogs on bear through the first day of open season on bear; and
4. It increases the bag limit on bear to 2 bears by allowing a person to kill one bear during the open hunting season on bear and another by trapping.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-443)**

This amendment removes language from the bill regarding the hunting season on bears using dogs and establishing bait sites on another person's land without written permission. The written permission to place bait was addressed in LD 559. It also changes the day before the open bear season a person can train dogs on bear from the 8th day to the 4th day.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2011, chapter 309 changes the bear hunting and trapping laws as follows:

1. It provides that a resident may train dogs on bear to the 4th day preceding the open hunting season on bear. Current law allows a person to train dogs on bear through the first day of open season on bear; and
2. It increases the bag limit on bear to 2 bears by allowing a person to kill one bear during the open hunting season on bear and another by trapping.

**LD 487      An Act To Facilitate the Restoration of Hunting and Fishing Licenses That Have Been Suspended**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN J JACKSON	ONTP	

This bill directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish an ongoing advisory committee for the purpose of developing a protocol for the restoration of suspended hunting and fishing licenses and to review and provide advice on matters relating to the restoration of suspended hunting or fishing licenses.