

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 INLAND FISHERIES
AND WILDLIFE**

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 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Current law allows a super pack license holder to receive an antlerless deer permit and to have an opportunity to enter an antlerless deer permit lottery pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 11152. This bill removes the provision that gives a person holding a super pack license the opportunity to enter an antlerless deer permit lottery thus limiting the number of antlerless deer permits a person holding a super pack license may have to one.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-345)

This amendment replaces the bill. It provides that the holder of a super pack license who receives an antlerless deer permit pursuant to that license is not eligible to obtain a permit in the regular antlerless deer permit lottery. It also delays the effective date of the legislation until January 1, 2012.

Enacted Law Summary

Current law allows a super pack license holder to receive an antlerless deer permit and to have an opportunity to enter an antlerless deer permit lottery pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 11152. Public Law 2011, chapter 252 provides that the holder of a super pack license who receives an antlerless deer permit pursuant to that license is not eligible to obtain a permit in the regular antlerless deer permit lottery. This law becomes effective on January 1, 2012.

LD 884 An Act To Change the Moose Lottery To Increase the Chances for Resident Hunters ONTP

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

This bill requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt rules to allow resident applicants to the moose lottery to receive additional points for each year they fail to receive a permit until they receive a permit.

LD 906 An Act To Allow Sunday Hunting for Small Game and Wild Birds ONTP

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

This bill provides for Sunday hunting of small game and wild birds.

LD 910 An Act To Allow Hunting on Sunday for Landowners MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

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

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This bill allows the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to authorize private landowners to hunt on Sunday on their own land if they own 20 or more acres and the land is open to hunting by the public. A landowner must register with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The department shall adopt rules to implement a Sunday hunting permit system. The fee for a Sunday hunting permit may not exceed \$25.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-587)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. Instead of allowing Sunday hunting for landowners on their own land for deer only, the amendment allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish rules to permit Sunday hunting for such landowners for any species during the open season for that species.

LD 913 Resolve, To Consolidate the State's Boat Launch Programs ONTP

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

This resolve directs the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to combine their boat launch programs into one program under the Department of Conservation.

LD 927 An Act To Change the Coyote Night Hunting Law PUBLIC 216

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON D	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-246 H-290 SARTY

This bill provides for the night hunting of coyotes throughout the year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-246)

This amendment is the minority report. It extends the current night hunting season on coyotes from December 16th to one week before the regular firearm hunting season on deer established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 11401. The bill would have allowed night hunting year-round.

House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-290)

This amendment removes language from Committee Amendment "A" that allows night hunting for coyotes to the week before the open firearm season on deer. This amendment also authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to appoint agents to hunt for coyotes at night using artificial illumination during the period of time when hunting for coyotes at night is currently prohibited. It directs the commissioner to develop policies to notify the affected public and affected law enforcement officers about any night hunting operations.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 216 authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to appoint agents to hunt for coyotes at night using artificial illumination during the period of time when hunting for coyotes at night is currently prohibited. It also directs the commissioner to develop policies to notify the affected public and affected