

# 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***

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