## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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### STATE OF MAINE

125<sup>th</sup> Legislature Second Regular Session



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

# JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

June 2012

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### STATE OF MAINE

125<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION



## 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 Second 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
CON RES XXX chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE
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 PASSAGEemergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENTlegislation 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 BODYruled 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
PUBLIC XXX
RESOLVE XXX
VETO SUSTAINEDLegislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session of the 125<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Thursday, August 30, 2012. 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 1327 Resolve, To Study the Organization of the Fisheries Management Activities of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Make Recommendations To Improve Efficiency and Effectiveness

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
FLEMINGS	ONTP	
TRAHAN		

This resolve was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

It is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This resolve proposes to study the organization and operations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife with respect to the management of the inland fisheries resources in the public waters of the State to identify and recommend changes that will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of those activities.

#### LD 1408 An Act To Amend Water Quality Standards for Fish Hatcheries

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
TRAHAN	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

Current law requires a nutrient management plan for a fish hatchery to address storage, management and use of fish waste from the hatchery with the goal of improving water quality. This bill requires the plan to have the goal of maintaining water quality.

#### LD 1613

### An Act To Strengthen the Relationship between Land Users and Landowners

**PUBLIC 576** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
CUSHING SAVIELLO	OTP-AM	Н-793
		H-819 DAVIS

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill would make statutory changes that would help continue the tradition of public recreational access to private land. Specifically, it would revamp the Landowners and Sportsmen Relations Advisory Board's functions, establish a strategy for long-term funding of a landowner relations program, implement the recommendations being developed for a land user certification program and update the landowner liability laws as they relate to public use of private land.

#### Committee Amendment "A" (H-793)

#### Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This amendment replaces the concept draft. This amendment repeals the laws governing the supersport certificate and the landowner relations program in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and replaces them with a new provision directing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a broader and more inclusive landowner relations program. The amendment authorizes the commissioner to establish and issue for a fee a certificate to persons wishing to be recognized as supporting the program. The amendment establishes the Landowner Relations Fund to receive all fees from the sale of certificates as well as any other funds allocated or appropriated to the fund and any contributions from public or private sources. This amendment also adds the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to the ex officio members of the Landowners and Sportsmen Relations Advisory Board. The amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

#### House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-819)

This amendment delays the repeal of the supersport certificate included in Committee Amendment "A," until January 1, 2013 and requires revenue from the sale of the certificate to be deposited in the Landowner Relations Fund.

#### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law of 2011, chapter 576 repeals the laws governing the supersport certificate and the landowner relations program in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and replaces them with a new provision directing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a broader and more inclusive landowner relations program. It authorizes the commissioner to establish and issue for a fee a certificate to persons wishing to be recognized as supporting the program. It establishes the Landowner Relations Fund to receive all fees from the sale of certificates as well as any other funds allocated or appropriated to the fund and any contributions from public or private sources. It also adds the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to the ex officio members of the Landowners and Sportsmen Relations Advisory Board.

Public Law 2011, chapter 576 also delays the repeal of the supersport certificate until January 1, 2013, and requires revenue from the sale of the certificate to be deposited in the Landowner Relations Fund.

## LD 1652 An Act To Ensure a Reliable Funding Stream for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
RAYE	JT RULE 309	

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to allow an applicant for a license or permit issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to make a donation to the department to be used for a wildlife management district identified by the applicant. It also directs the commissioner to seek long-term funding sources for the department and to work with the Public Utilities Commission and other entities to secure a portion of the fees paid for the use of state-owned land and assets within energy infrastructure corridors to help fund operations of the department. The commissioner must report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by January 15, 2013 on funding sources identified or secured.