

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

July 2013

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STATE OF MAINE

126TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 126th 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 126th Legislature is October 9, 2013. 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 307 An Act To Exempt Persons Who Serve in the Armed Forces from the Requirement To Take a Hunter Safety Course To Obtain a Hunting License

PUBLIC 139

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS THIBODEAU	OTP-AM ONTP	H-136

This bill exempts persons who have received training in the armed forces, including both persons on active duty and veterans, from having to take a hunter safety course to obtain a hunting license.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-136)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee and replaces the bill, exempts active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces who are stationed outside of the United States and home on leave from having to take a hunter safety course to obtain a hunting license.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 139 exempts active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces who are stationed outside of the United States and home on leave from having to take a hunter safety course to obtain a hunting license.

LD 334 An Act To Allow Nonprofit Organizations To Operate Snowmobiles as Trail-grooming Equipment

PUBLIC 190

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LONG PLUMMER	OTP	

This bill amends the definition of "trail-grooming equipment" in the laws governing snowmobile trails and allows a snowmobile that is owned by a nonprofit organization and used to groom snowmobile trails to be registered as trail-grooming equipment.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 190 amends the definition of "trail-grooming equipment" in the laws governing snowmobile trails and allows a snowmobile that is owned by a nonprofit organization and used to groom snowmobile trails to be registered as trail-grooming equipment.

LD 356 An Act To Allow a Person Who Is 60 Years of Age or Older To Use a Crossbow during the Open Seasons on Wild Birds and Animals

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

Current law allows a person 70 years of age or older to hunt a wild bird or wild animal with a crossbow during any open season; the provision is repealed January 1, 2015.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This bill extends the provision to a person 60 years of age or older and removes the repeal.

LD 391 An Act To Allow a Person To Possess Small Game in Excess of That Person's Possession Limit ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOOD JACKSON T	ONTP	

This bill allows a person to possess in that person's home a small game animal in excess of the possession limit if the small game animal is marked with the name and address of the person who legally possesses that animal and the date it was taken by that person.

LD 423 An Act Regarding the Driving of Deer ACCEPTED MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

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

This bill allows a group of six or fewer persons to hunt together in a hunt for deer as long as they are accompanied by a registered Maine guide and as long as they do not use noisemaking devices.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-108)

This amendment, which is the minority report, allows a group of four or fewer persons to hunt for and drive deer together as long as they do not use noisemaking devices. This amendment also specifically prohibits groups of five or more persons from hunting together or driving deer.

LD 467 An Act To Increase Agent Fees for Registration of Certain Recreational Vehicles ACCEPTED MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

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

This bill increases the watercraft, snowmobile and ATV registration service fees that may be assessed, collected and retained by agents. The service fee for the renewal of a registration is increased from \$1 up to a maximum of \$3 and from \$2 up to a maximum of \$4 for the issuance of a new registration. Agents are also allowed to charge an extra \$1 for registrations or renewals issued for residents of other communities or unorganized territories.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-213)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, increases the watercraft, snowmobile and ATV registration service fees that may be assessed, collected and retained by agents by \$1 less than the bill increases the fees. The service fee for the renewal of a registration is increased from \$1 to a maximum of \$2 and for the issuance of a new registration is increased from \$2 to a maximum of \$3. The amendment provides that agents are also allowed to charge an extra \$2 for registrations or renewals issued for residents of other communities or unorganized