

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 MARINE RESOURCES

July 2013

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STATE OF MAINE

126TH LEGISLATURE
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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 Marine Resources

This bill provides the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians the same rights regarding the taking of marine organisms as are provided to the other federally recognized Indian tribes in this State, including the right to issue certain commercial licenses and permits for the taking of marine organisms and the right of members of the band to take, possess, transport and distribute marine organisms for sustenance and ceremonial uses. The bill limits the number of lobster and crab fishing licenses issued by the band to 25, the number of sea urchin licenses to 24, the number of scallop licenses to 10 and the number of elver licenses to 25. The bill also increases the number of elver licenses that may be issued by the Penobscot Nation to 50 and the number that may be issued by the Aroostook Band of Micmacs to 25.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-225)

This amendment replaces the bill and provides the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians the same rights regarding the taking of marine organisms as are provided to the other, federally recognized, Indian tribes in this State, including the right to issue certain commercial licenses and permits for the taking of marine organisms and the right of members of the band to take, possess, transport and distribute marine organisms for sustenance and ceremonial uses. The amendment limits the number of lobster and crab fishing licenses issued by the band to 10, the number of sea urchin licenses to 24 and the number of scallop licenses to 10.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 254 provides the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians the same rights regarding the taking of marine organisms as are provided to the other, federally recognized, Indian tribes in this State, including the right to issue certain commercial licenses and permits for the taking of marine organisms and the right of members of the band to take, possess, transport and distribute marine organisms for sustenance and ceremonial uses. The amendment limits the number of lobster and crab fishing licenses issued by the band to 10, the number of sea urchin licenses to 24 and the number of scallop licenses to 10.

LD 1020 An Act Regarding the Swans Island Lobster Fishing Zone

**PUBLIC 342
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KUMIEGA	OTP-AM	H-408

This bill establishes in statute the Swans Island Lobster Conservation Area. Under this bill, the maximum allowable number of lobster traps and tags per individual registered to obtain Swans Island Lobster Conservation Area trap tags is 550.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-408)

This amendment clarifies the eligibility requirements for Swans Island Conservation Area lobster trap tags. It ensures that a person eligible to take lobsters in the limited-entry zone in which Swans Island is located pursuant to the Department of Marine Resources Rule Chapter 25.90: Swans Island Area Lobster Trap Regulation is eligible to obtain the tags. It also provides that a person who declared the lobster management zone that includes the Swans Island Lobster Conservation Area in the prior calendar year is eligible to obtain Swans Island Lobster Conservation Area trap tags.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 342 does the following.

1. It establishes in statute the Swans Island Lobster Conservation Area. Under this law, the maximum allowable number of lobster traps and tags per individual registered to obtain Swans Island Lobster Conservation Area trap tags is 550.

Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources

2. It clarifies the eligibility requirements for Swans Island Conservation Area lobster trap tags. It ensures that a person eligible to take lobsters in the limited-entry zone in which Swans Island is located pursuant to the Department of Marine Resources Rule Chapter 25.90: Swans Island Area Lobster Trap Regulation is eligible to obtain the tags. It also provides that a person who declared the lobster management zone that includes the Swans Island Lobster Conservation Area in the prior calendar year is eligible to obtain Swans Island Lobster Conservation Area trap tags.

Public Law 2013, chapter 342 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 24, 2013.

LD 1097 An Act To Allow the Sale of Incidentally Caught Lobsters ONTP

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

This bill allows commercial fishing operators who take lobsters as bycatch from federal Lobster Management Area 3 to land the lobsters at a commercial exchange that auctions fish in the City of Portland with landing limits regulated by the Commissioner of Marine Resources based on the fishery's maintaining the lobster population at optimal levels. This bill directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to monitor and review the effect of this regulation on the State's ground fishing fleet and report the findings of the review to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters, which may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature based upon the subject matter of the report.

**LD 1171 Resolve, To Allow Certain Holders of Lobster and Crab Fishing ONTP
Licenses To Harvest River Herring for Personal Use as Bait**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODALL MACDONALD W	ONTP	

This resolve requires the Department of Marine Resources to adopt rules to allow a person holding a lobster and crab fishing license to take river herring on property that the licensee owns or rents for use as bait by the licensee.

LD 1224 An Act Regarding Advertising of Maine Shellfish ONTP

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

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

The purpose of this bill is to ensure that, in any advertisement for the sale of clams, wild clams that are fresh out of the flats and clams that have gone through the depuration process are differentiated.