

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2015

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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 127th 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. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

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 127th Legislature is October 15, 2015. 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 126 An Act To Restrict Swim Areas

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHAW DUTREMBLE		

This bill provides that the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may not issue a permit for a swim area the length of which, measured parallel to the shore, is more than 50 percent of the length of the shore frontage of the property from which the swim area extends or 200 feet, whichever is greater.

This bill was not referred to a committee.

LD 134 Resolve, To Study the Impact of Winter Ticks on the State's Moose Population

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN R EDGECOMB P	OTP ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to conduct a study of the impact of winter ticks on the State's moose population, including identifying any problems for the moose population created by the ticks and recommending possible courses of action, if any, to address those problems.

LD 142 An Act To Expand Deer Hunting Opportunities for Junior Hunters

PUBLIC 219

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HILLIARD	OTP-AM ONTP	H-273

This bill allows an adult holder of an antlerless deer permit to transfer that permit to a holder of a junior hunting license if the holder of the junior hunting license takes an antlerless deer while in the presence or under the supervision of the antlerless deer permit holder. Once the permit is transferred, the adult antlerless deer permit holder loses the right to take an antlerless deer under that permit.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-273)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill. It provides that an antlerless deer permit holder who is 18 years of age or older may transfer the antlerless deer permit to a person who holds a junior hunting license at least 48 hours prior to the time the person holding the junior hunting license hunts for antlerless deer. Once the antlerless deer permit is transferred, the transferor loses the right to take an antlerless deer under that permit but remains eligible, unless otherwise prohibited, to take an antlered deer in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, Part 13.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 219 allows an antlerless deer permit holder who is 18 years of age or older to transfer the antlerless deer permit to a person who holds a junior hunting license at least 48 hours prior to the time the person holding the junior hunting license hunts for antlerless deer. It provides that once the antlerless deer permit is

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

transferred, the transferor loses the right to take an antlerless deer under that permit but remains eligible, unless otherwise prohibited, to take an antlered deer in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, Part 13.

**LD 156 An Act To Eliminate the Minimum Age Requirement for a Junior
Hunting License and Increase the Number of Times a Person May Hold
an Apprentice Hunter License**

PUBLIC 136

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HILLIARD SAVIELLO	OTP-AM ONTP	H-105 S-123 DAVIS

This bill lowers the eligibility age for a junior hunting license from ten years of age to eight years of age.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-105)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee and removes the minimum age requirement for a junior hunting license. This amendment also provides that the adult supervisor of the junior hunter must hold or have held a Maine hunting license or have successfully completed a hunter safety course. It also increases the number of times a person may hold an apprentice hunter license from twice to five times before becoming ineligible to purchase the license. This amendment provides an effective date of January 1, 2016.

Senate Amendment "B" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-123)

This amendment requires that hunters under 10 years of age must hold a junior hunting license and be in the presence of and under the effective control of an adult supervisor who remains at all times within 20 feet of the hunter.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 136 removes the minimum age requirement for a person to hold a junior hunting license. It provides that hunters under 10 years of age must hold a junior hunting license and be in the presence of and under the effective control of an adult supervisor who remains at all times within 20 feet of the hunter. Chapter 136 also provides that the adult supervisor of the junior hunter must hold or have held a Maine hunting license or have successfully completed a hunter safety course.

Public Law 2015, chapter 136 increases the number of times a person may hold an apprentice hunter license from twice to five times before becoming ineligible to purchase the license.

Public Law 2015, chapter 136 has an effective date of January 1, 2016.

**LD 157 An Act To Create an Advisory Committee To Review and Make
Recommendations Regarding Hunting and Fishing Laws**

ONTP

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

This bill creates the Hunting and Fishing Law Review Advisory Committee under the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to review inland fisheries and wildlife laws and rules and make recommendations to the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife regarding any necessary changes. It also directs the Hunting and Fishing Law Review Advisory Committee to conduct an annual survey of holders of fishing and hunting licenses on various inland fisheries and wildlife issues in the State.