

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.

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN HOUSES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagreed; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>action incomplete when session ended; legislation died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment</i>
<i>FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>failed to receive final majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>HELD BY GOVERNOR</i>	<i>Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session</i>
<i>LEAVE TO WITHDRAW</i>	<i>sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>indefinitely postponed; legislation died</i>
<i>ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X</i>	<i>ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted private & special law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted public law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of finally passed resolve</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's veto</i>

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 703 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine INDEF PP
To Protect the People's Right To Hunt, Fish and Harvest Wildlife

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

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to provide that the citizens of Maine have the personal right to hunt, fish and harvest wildlife, subject to laws and rules that promote wildlife conservation and preserve the future of hunting and fishing, and to provide that public hunting, fishing and harvesting wildlife are a preferred means of managing and controlling wildlife.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-344)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 716 An Act To Amend the Fees for Snowmobile Registrations and To Create PUBLIC 237
the Snowmobile Trail Fund Donation Sticker EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STANLEY	OTP-AM	H-338

This bill makes the following changes related to snowmobile registration and sales tax on diesel fuel used in snowmobile trail-grooming machinery.

1. It increases the resident snowmobile registration fee from \$40 to \$50 and allocates the additional \$10 to the Snowmobile Trail Fund of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands.
2. It increases the three-day nonresident snowmobile registration fee from \$43 to \$49 and increases the seasonal nonresident registration from \$88 to \$99 and allocates the additional revenue to the Snowmobile Trail Fund of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands.
3. It creates a seven-day nonresident snowmobile registration with a fee of \$75.
4. It amends the law governing the special fuel tax to make it clear that fuel qualifying for a refund under that law does not lose the sales tax exemption created in the bill for diesel fuel used in snowmobile trail-grooming machinery.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-338)

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It does the following.

1. It increases the resident snowmobile registration fee from \$40 to \$45 and dedicates the \$5 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
2. It increases the three-day nonresident snowmobile registration fee from \$43 to \$49 and dedicates the \$6 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
3. It increases the nonresident seasonal snowmobile registration fee from \$88 to \$99 and dedicates the \$11 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

- 4. It creates a 10-day nonresident snowmobile registration fee and sets the fee at \$75, of which \$6 is dedicated to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
- 5. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to create the Snowmobile Trail Fund Donation Sticker Program and to create donation stickers to reflect a donor's donation of \$25, \$50 and \$100, respectively, of which \$2 is retained by the department and the remainder is transferred to the Snowmobile Trail Fund. The donation stickers are not a part of or associated with the State's snowmobile registration requirements.
- 6. It directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to develop written policies specifying the criteria the department will use to distribute additional revenues raised pursuant to this amendment to snowmobile clubs and to submit those policies for review to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than January 15, 2016.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 237 does the following.

- 1. It increases the resident snowmobile registration fee from \$40 to \$45 and dedicates the \$5 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
- 2. It increases the three-day nonresident snowmobile registration fee from \$43 to \$49 and dedicates the \$6 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
- 3. It increases the nonresident seasonal snowmobile registration fee from \$88 to \$99 and dedicates the \$11 increase to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
- 4. It creates a 10-day nonresident snowmobile registration fee and sets the fee at \$75, of which \$6 is dedicated to the Snowmobile Trail Fund.
- 5. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to create the Snowmobile Trail Fund Donation Sticker Program and to create donation stickers to reflect a donor's donation of \$25, \$50 and \$100, respectively, of which \$2 is retained by the department and the remainder is transferred to the Snowmobile Trail Fund. The donation stickers are not a part of or associated with the State's snowmobile registration requirements.
- 6. It directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to develop written policies specifying the criteria the department will use to distribute additional revenues raised pursuant to this amendment to snowmobile clubs and to submit those policies for review to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than January 15, 2016.

Public Law 2015, chapter 237 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 23, 2015.

LD 723 An Act To Allow Reciprocal Recognition of New Hampshire and Maine ONTP
Snowmobile Registrations

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

This bill allows a person from November 15th to May 1st to operate in this State a snowmobile registered in the State of New Hampshire if the State of New Hampshire allows a person to operate in the State of New Hampshire a snowmobile registered in this State.