

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
127<sup>TH</sup> 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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# STATE OF MAINE

127<sup>TH</sup> 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 127<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. 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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i> .....                                   | <i>chapter # of enacted private &amp; 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 127<sup>th</sup> 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 811 An Act To Benefit Senior Hunters**

**ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>   | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CUSHING<br>PETERSON | ONTP                    |                           |

This bill allows a resident of the State who is 70 years of age or older and possesses a hunting license to lawfully take an antlerless deer without a permit during the open season on deer. It also requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to designate which hunting zones are open to the taking of antlerless deer by such residents.

**LD 833 Resolve, To Direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Add Koi to the List of Fish Approved for Aquariums**

**ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LONGSTAFF         | ONTP                    |                           |

This resolve directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to amend its rules to add koi, *Cyprinus carpio haematopterus*, to the list of unrestricted fish that do not require an importation permit or possession permit and to allow koi to be kept only in a closed aquarium or pond system.

**LD 848 An Act To Increase the Safety of Hunting**

**ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BURNS<br>ALLEY    | ONTP                    |                           |

This bill:

1. Imposes a mandatory \$500 penalty for a violation of discharging a firearm or crossbow within 100 yards of a building or residential dwelling;
2. Increases the minimum distance for discharging a firearm to 100 feet from the center of a paved road and sets a penalty of \$500 for a violation; and
3. Requires that a firearm with a rifled barrel in or on a motor vehicle during deer hunting season be enclosed in a case.

**LD 849 Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Examine the Use of an Antler Point Restriction System To Increase the Age, Size and Number of Antlered Deer in Maine**

**Veto Sustained**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BURNS<br>ALLEY    | OTP-AM<br>ONTP          | S-110                     |

This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt an antler point restriction system to