

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2017

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH 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 128th 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 128th Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. 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 62 An Act To Remove the Prohibition on Baiting Deer

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

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

This bill repeals the prohibition against baiting deer.

**LD 98 An Act To Provide Greater Authority to the Department of Inland
Fisheries and Wildlife over the Management of Wild Turkeys**

PUBLIC 85

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P BLACK R	OTP-AM	S-102

This bill eliminates the requirement that a person obtain a permit to hunt wild turkeys. This bill increases the number of wild turkeys a person may take during the spring open season for hunting wild turkeys from two wild turkeys of either sex to three male wild turkeys. This bill increases the number of wild turkeys a person may take during the fall open seasons for hunting wild turkeys from two to three of either sex over both seasons. This bill allows a person to register wild turkeys electronically or by telephone.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-102)

This amendment replaces the bill and eliminates the spring and fall open seasons on wild turkey and the bag limits for wild turkey in those seasons. Current law allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish open seasons for hunting of wild turkey by rule. The amendment prohibits hunting of wild turkey with a crossbow from October 1st until the first day of the open season established by the commissioner in the following year. The amendment strikes the prohibition on killing or registering wild turkey after having killed or registered one wild turkey in any open season of that calendar year and instead prohibits killing or taking more than the number of wild turkey allowed during an open season established by rule by the commissioner.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 85 eliminates the spring and fall open seasons on wild turkey and the bag limits for wild turkey in those seasons. Current law allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish open seasons for hunting of wild turkey by rule. Public Law 2017, chapter 85 prohibits hunting of wild turkey with a crossbow from October 1st until the first day of the open season established by the commissioner in the following year. Public Law 2017, chapter 85 strikes the prohibition on killing or registering wild turkey after having killed or registered one wild turkey in any open season of that calendar year and instead prohibits killing or taking more than the number of wild turkey allowed during an open season established by rule by the commissioner.

**LD 109 An Act To Allow Sunday Hunting by Landowners and Those with
Landowner Permission**

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

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

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This bill allows hunting on Sundays on private property with the permission of the landowner.

LD 110 An Act To Assist Island and Coastal Communities with Controlling Excess Deer Populations ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALLEY R MAKER J	ONTP	

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

This bill proposes to address the problem of excess populations of deer in island and coastal communities.

LD 187 Resolve, To Establish a Commission To Simplify Maine's Fishing Rules ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNPHY M DAVIS P	ONTP	

This resolve creates the Commission To Simplify Maine's Fishing Rules. The commission is required to submit its report and any accompanying legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by January 16, 2018.

LD 188 An Act To Allow Dipping for Smelt on King Pond in Hancock County Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

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

This bill allows a person to fish for smelt by use of a dip net in King Pond in the Town of Great Pond in Hancock County.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-54)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, repeals on January 1, 2020 the section that allows smelt fishing in King Pond.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 189 An Act To Allow Bird Hunting on Sunday in Aroostook County and Unorganized Townships in Western Maine Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAGGAN D SAVIELLO T	ONTP OTP	