

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

STAFF:

CRAIG NALE, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/opla/>

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STATE OF MAINE

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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 340 An Act To Provide 100 Percent Disabled Veterans Antlerless Deer Permits in the Zone of Their Choice ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S CYRWAY S	ONTP	

This bill allows a veteran who has a service-connected disability evaluated at 100% by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the United States Armed Forces who is issued an antlerless deer permit to choose a wildlife management district in which the person may take an antlerless deer as long as that district is open to the taking of antlerless deer.

LD 341 An Act To Promote Deer Hunting ONTP

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

This bill limits deer hunters to harvesting only deer with three or more tines of one inch or longer along the main beam of either or both antlers.

LD 342 An Act To Require the Use of Personal Flotation Devices in Canoes Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAKER J STEWART H	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill requires the use of a Coast Guard approved Type I, Type II or Type III personal flotation device while canoeing.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-32)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, requires that a person operating or being a passenger in a kayak wear a personal flotation device.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 359 An Act To Protect Maine Lakes and Ponds from Invasive Species Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

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

This bill requires that any passive watercraft placed or operated on the inland waters of the State have an invasive aquatic plant and nuisance species sticker affixed on its bow. This sticker may be purchased for a one-time fee of

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

\$5, and the fee revenues from the sale of the sticker will be credited to the Invasive Aquatic Plant and Nuisance Species Fund established in the Department of Environmental Protection under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1863 and to the Lake and River Protection Fund established within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife under Title 12, section 10257. These two funds, among other things, support invasive aquatic plant and nuisance species prevention, containment, eradication and management activities in the State.

LD 424 An Act To Extend the Big Game Season in Coastal Wildlife Management Areas

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIERCE J WOODSOME D	ONTP OTP	

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to allow hunting on Sunday and directs the commissioner to allow hunting on five Sundays for the respective hunting seasons for bear, moose, deer and wild turkey in coastal wildlife management areas on public land and private land of five acres or more with the landowner's permission.

LD 425 An Act To Extend Fall Fishing Opportunities

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLACK R SAVIELLO T	ONTP	

This bill establishes a limited season for fishing from October 1st to October 31st, during which a holder of a fishing license may catch fish as long as the fish is immediately returned to the water in which it was caught.

LD 426 An Act To Allow Hunters Whose Religion Prohibits Wearing Hunter Orange Clothing To Instead Wear Red

PUBLIC 82

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCREA D THIBODEAU M	OTP-AM ONTP	H-130

This bill allows a hunter whose religion prohibits the wearing of hunter orange to instead wear red. It also directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to amend its rules to reflect this exemption.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-130)

This amendment provides that a person with a religious opposition to wearing hunter orange may substitute articles of bright red clothing, instead of articles of red clothing as the bill provides, for the required articles of hunter orange clothing.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 82 provides that a person with a religious opposition to wearing hunter orange may substitute articles of bright red clothing for the articles of hunter orange clothing otherwise required by law.