

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.

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was hunted on a Wednesday. The amendment provides that a person who hunts migratory game birds on a Wednesday or possesses a migratory game bird that was hunted on a Wednesday commits a Class E crime.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 506 An Act To Allow Reciprocal Recognition of New Hampshire and Maine Snowmobile Registrations ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOODSOME D WADSWORTH N	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.

LD 509 An Act To Allocate at Least 10 Percent of Antlerless Deer Permits Available in Each Wildlife Management District to Hunters 70 Years of Age and Older Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

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

This bill requires that at least 10% of antlerless deer permits issued in a wildlife management district be issued to eligible hunters who are 70 years of age and older.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-55)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, decreases the percentage of antlerless deer permits issued in a wildlife management district to eligible hunters 70 years of age and older from 10%, as provided in the bill, to 5%.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 547 An Act To Update Maine's Fishing Laws PUBLIC 150

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CYRWAY S DUCHESNE R	OTP-AM	S-167

This bill:

1. Prohibits a person from altering fish, including smelts, from their natural state until after a wet measure has been conducted;
2. Replaces the term "alewives" with the term "river herring" to be more consistent with Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife usage. The definition of river herring includes both alewives and blueback herring; and
3. Removes several species from the definition of baitfish that do not exist in the waters of the State, are not

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commonly used or sold in the State or are found in very localized areas and should not be used as bait due to the possibility of introduction into other areas with adverse effects.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-167)

This amendment clarifies that fish may not be altered from their natural state before being measured for compliance with a volume limit established by rule by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 150:

1. Prohibits a person from altering fish, including smelts, from their natural state until after a wet measure has been conducted;
2. Replaces the term "alewives" with the term "river herring" to be more consistent with Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife usage. The definition of river herring includes both alewives and blueback herring; and
3. Removes several species from the definition of baitfish that do not exist in the waters of the State, are not commonly used or sold in the State or are found in very localized areas and should not be used as bait due to the possibility of introduction into other areas with adverse effects.

LD 552 An Act To Amend Maine's Fish and Wildlife Licensing Laws

PUBLIC 72

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

This bill makes the following changes to the fish and wildlife licensing laws.

1. It eliminates the \$50 examination fee for a taxidermy license.
2. It clarifies the length of the period of time during which a person who has obtained a moose hunting permit is ineligible to obtain another permit.
3. It authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue a complimentary group fishing license to a person or entity that allows a group of persons with disabilities to fish in a location for a period of time as specified on the license.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 72 makes the following changes to the fish and wildlife licensing laws.

1. It eliminates the \$50 examination fee for a taxidermy license.
2. It clarifies the length of the period of time during which a person who has obtained a moose hunting permit is ineligible to obtain another permit.
3. It authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue a complimentary group fishing license to a person or entity that allows a group of persons with disabilities to fish in a location for a period of time as specified on the license.