

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON MARINE RESOURCES**

August 2017

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# STATE OF MAINE

128<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 128<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.

*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 128<sup>th</sup> 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 Marine Resources**

**LD 730**      **An Act To Establish Minimum and Maximum Size Limits for Possession of Soft-shelled Clams**      **ONTP**

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

This bill amends the laws regarding the size limit of soft-shelled clams. It decreases the minimum size from two inches to one and a half inches and sets a maximum size of four inches.

**LD 922**      **An Act Directing the Commissioner of Marine Resources To Investigate the Conditions of Sheepscot Pond Related to a Management Plan for Anadromous Fish Species**      **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIERCE J VITELLI E		

This bill directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to open and keep operational from April 15th to June 30th annually the fishway on the Sheepscot River located at the outlet of Sheepscot Pond in the Town of Palermo and to investigate the conditions of the pond for the purpose of developing a management plan for anadromous fish species.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

**LD 1067**      **An Act To Limit the Size of Scallop Drags**      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALLEY R VITELLI E	ONTP	

This bill limits the size of scallop drags allowed in the territorial waters of the State to a maximum measurement of five and a half feet across when used within the island zone as defined by the Department of Marine Resources and ten feet across when used outside the island zone. This bill also establishes penalties for exceeding the drag width limit.

**LD 1207**      **An Act To Make Technical Changes to Maine's Marine Resources Laws**      **PUBLIC 146  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUELL W	OTP-AM	H-347

This bill makes technical changes to Maine's marine resources laws. It clarifies that license revocation for a conviction of scrubbing egged lobsters may be permanent. It prohibits the sale of offal for use as bait to fish for or take lobsters or crabs. It creates a residency requirement for a commercial pelagic and anadromous fishing license, but allows for licensure of a nonresident if an applicant documents that the applicant's state of residence allows Maine residents to purchase a license and fish for pelagic and anadromous species in that state. Finally, it exempts