

# 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 INLAND FISHERIES  
AND WILDLIFE**

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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 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 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

### Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 225 expands the prohibition on baiting deer during an open hunting season on deer to also prohibit feeding deer by placing salt or any other bait or food in a place to entice deer to that place from June 1st to the start of an open hunting season on deer and from the close of all open hunting seasons on deer to December 15th if all open hunting seasons on deer are closed before December 15th.

#### **LD 768 An Act To Establish 2 Comprehensive Licenses for Hunting and for Hunting and Fishing**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HILLIARD G MIRAMANT D		

This bill establishes resident and nonresident comprehensive hunting licenses that allow hunting of all legal species subject to the moose, pheasant, migratory waterfowl, special season deer and antlerless deer permit requirements. The fee for the resident comprehensive hunting license is \$38 and the fee for the nonresident comprehensive hunting license is \$143.

The bill also establishes resident and nonresident comprehensive combination hunting and fishing licenses that allow fishing and hunting of all legal species, subject to the moose, pheasant, migratory waterfowl, special season deer and antlerless deer permit requirements. The fee for the resident comprehensive combination hunting and fishing license is \$55 and the fee for the nonresident comprehensive combination hunting and fishing license is \$178. The bill establishes January 1, 2018 as the effective date of these licenses.

This bill eliminates all alien licenses and permits and allows persons who are not citizens to purchase nonresident licenses and permits if they are not considered residents.

This bill allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife or a clerk or other agent appointed by the commissioner who issues licenses to inquire of a license applicant which species the applicant intends to hunt under the license and limit the license to the species specified. A license with this limitation must clearly indicate the limitation.

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

#### **LD 843 An Act To Adjust the Formula for Calculating the Allocation of Moose Permits for Hunting Lodges**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STANLEY S	OTP-AM ONTP	H-217

This bill amends the law regarding the number of moose permits made available through a chance drawing to hunting outfitters, which is currently calculated as 10% of the number of permits made available in the public chance drawing above 3,140. The bill sets the number of moose permits made available to hunting outfitters at 10% of the number of permits in excess of the average number of permits made available in the public chance drawing per year since 1982 or 100, whichever is greater.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-217)**

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment reduces the number of moose hunting permits that may be issued to nonresidents from 10% to 8% and allows up to 2% of moose hunting permits to be issued to hunting

***Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife***

outfitters instead of basing the number of permits issued to hunting outfitters upon the number of permits available over 3,140, which is the current law.

This bill was carried over was reported out of committee and then carried over to the next special or regular session of the 128th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, S.P. 601.

**LD 844      An Act To Make Excessive Boat Noise a Public Nuisance      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FAY J	ONTP	

This bill makes excessive watercraft noise a public nuisance that may be enforced by a private right of action or by a law enforcement officer.

**LD 868      An Act Regarding Game That Is Confiscated in Connection with an Alleged Violation of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws      Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THERIAULT T	ONTP OTP	

This bill requires the court to order the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue a permit to take a deer or moose to a person found not to have violated the inland fisheries and wildlife laws when a deer or moose taken by the person and seized by the department had been disposed of before that finding was made.

**LD 869      An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Tagging of Harvested Animals      PUBLIC 226**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WHITE D SAVIELLO T	OTP-AM	H-309

This bill allows a person who has legally harvested an animal to keep the unregistered animal until a registration station within a reasonable distance of the person is open if no registration stations within a reasonable distance of the person are open due to a holiday or other legitimate reason.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-309)**

This amendment allows a person to keep an unregistered animal harvested by that person for longer than otherwise allowed if the person notifies a game warden within 18 hours as to the location of that animal and the circumstances preventing the person from registering the animal. The bill allows a similar exception but only in circumstances when a registration station within a reasonable distance of the person is not open due to a holiday or other legitimate reason.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 226 allows a person to keep an unregistered animal harvested by that person for longer than otherwise allowed if the person notifies a game warden within 18 hours as to the location of that animal and the circumstances preventing the person from registering the animal and no registration station within a reasonable distance of the person is open due to a holiday or other legitimate reason.