

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**

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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

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 239 lowers from 70 years of age to 65 years of age the age at which a person may hunt a wild bird or wild animal with a crossbow during any open season on that wild bird or wild animal, hunt in an expanded archery zone and hunt during muzzle-loading-only deer hunting season.

LD 1179 An Act To Increase Funding for Programs That Support the Mission of ONTP
the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

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

This bill creates the Maine Outdoor Programs and Activities Fund, administered by the Maine Outdoor Programs and Activities Fund Board, to carry out the mission of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The fund provides on a regional basis funding and grants to departmental and other outdoor programs and activities including funding for snowmobile and all-terrain vehicle trail improvements, fish and game organizations and youth outdoor activity programs. The Maine Outdoor Programs and Activities Fund is funded by adding \$1 to a resident fishing license fee and \$2 to a nonresident season fishing license fee for persons 16 years of age or older.

LD 1218 Resolve, To Allow the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To RESOLVE 2
Extend the 2017 Ice Fishing Season EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P	OTP-AM	S-13

Current law allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to change the date of the opening of a fishing season due to seasonal temperature changes or weather conditions. This bill eliminates the reference to seasonal temperature changes and allows the commissioner to change both the opening and closing dates of a fishing season based on weather conditions.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-13)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve that allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt emergency rules to extend the 2017 ice fishing season on the inland waters of the State if the extension is warranted due to weather conditions.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2017, chapter 2 allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt emergency rules to extend the 2017 ice fishing season on the inland waters of the State if the extension is warranted due to weather conditions.

Resolve 2017, chapter 2 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 30, 2017.

LD 1236 An Act To Improve Maine's Heritage Fish List CARRIED OVER

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

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

This bill limits the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adding to the list of state heritage fish waters only those lakes and ponds identified as eastern brook trout waters and arctic charr waters that according to reliable records have not been stocked for at least 25 years or have never been stocked.

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

LD 1391 An Act To Ensure the Continuation of the Landowner Relations Program CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ESPLING E	OTP-AM	H-321

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

This bill proposes to identify long-term funding needs and possible funding sources for the landowner relations program within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-321)

This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. The amendment provides \$150,000 per year to the Landowner Relations Fund, which funds the landowner relations program within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to improve or maintain good relationships between landowners and outdoor recreationists.

This bill 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 1451 An Act To Promote Biosecurity and Better Regulate the Importation, Possession and Use of Aquatic Species CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VOLK A		

This bill prohibits certain fish, amphibians and aquatic invertebrates from being introduced, imported or possessed by a person in the State unless a permit to do so has been issued by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The bill provides that a permit is not required to introduce, import or possess other fish species kept in an aquarium. The bill prohibits the introduction, importation, transportation and possession of certain aquatic plants in the State.

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

LD 1489 An Act To Authorize the Revocation, Suspension or Denial of a Guide License under Specified Circumstances PUBLIC 204

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P	OTP-AM	S-206

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to revoke, suspend, refuse to issue or refuse to renew a guide license if the license holder has been convicted of committing a crime punishable by imprisonment for one year or more or is found not criminally responsible by reason of insanity of committing a crime punishable