

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
129<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**

August 2019

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# STATE OF MAINE

129<sup>TH</sup> 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 129<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 129<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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*

- 1. Beginning January 1, 2020, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by \$5, and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by \$15.
- 2. Beginning January 1, 2021, the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by an additional \$10, but the resident fee remains the same.

This law also changes the allocation of the fee between the Invasive Aquatic Plant and Nuisance Species Fund and the Lake and River Protection Fund. The fee revenues from the sale of lake and river protection stickers are used to support the efforts of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Environmental Protection in preventing, eradicating and managing invasive aquatic plants and nuisance species in the State.

**LD 258**      **An Act To Establish and Coordinate a Volunteer Corps of Search and Rescue Specialists within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MIRAMANT D DOUDERA V	ONTP	

This bill directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish and coordinate a volunteer corps of search and rescue specialists whose initial and ongoing training is delivered by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and who are deputized to engage in search and rescue operations.

**LD 265**      **An Act To Increase Opportunities for Hunters, Anglers and Sporting Camps by Extending the Seasons on Upland Game**      **PUBLIC 42 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLACK R LANDRY S	OTP-AM	S-26

This bill amends the general hunting season provisions to direct the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to extend the open seasons on upland game by one additional day, the last Saturday of September, annually. It defines the term "upland game" as snowshoe hare, gray squirrel, ring-necked pheasant, ruffed grouse and bobwhite quail.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-26)**

This amendment replaces the bill and adds an emergency preamble and an emergency clause. It establishes that the open season on upland game must begin on the last Saturday in September and authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish the length of the season. It also removes ring-necked pheasant from the definition of "upland game."

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 42 establishes that the open season on upland game must begin on the last Saturday in September and authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish the length of the season. This law defines the term "upland game" as snowshoe hare, gray squirrel, ruffed grouse and bobwhite quail.

Public Law 2019, chapter 42 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 22, 2019.