

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH 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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STAFF:

DEIRDRE SCHNEIDER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>

*Committee member for a portion of the session

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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 129th 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 129th 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

Public Law 2019, chapter 116 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 16, 2019.

LD 891 An Act To Preserve Maine's Heritage by Expanding Maine Youth Hunting ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KEIM L	ONTP	

This bill allows the Commissioner of Inland and Fisheries and Wildlife to establish three consecutive days as youth hunting days for hunting bear and deer, and specifies these days as Thursday through Saturday.

LD 924 An Act To Remove the Background Check Requirement for Maine Guides Who Are at Least 70 Years of Age and Hold a Lifetime Hunting or Fishing License ONTP

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

This bill would exempt a registered Maine guide who holds a senior lifetime hunting, fishing, trapping or archery license and who is 70 years of age or older from having to undergo a background check when renewing their guide license, if that person had undergone a background check at 68 years of age or older.

LD 927 An Act To Minimize the Propagation of Invasive Aquatic Plants ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ACKLEY K	ONTP	

This bill requires a person when removing a vessel from an inland water body to drain the vessel and other equipment and to remove or open drain plugs, bailers, valves and other devices to drain the water before that vessel is transported. It exempts emergency response vessels from these requirements.

LD 932 An Act Regarding the Transfer of a Deceased Person's Moose Permit to a Family Member PUBLIC 143

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PICKETT R DAVIS P	OTP-AM	H-185

This bill specifies that if a person who is issued a moose permit dies prior to the start of the moose hunting season, that person's subpermittee-designate or subpermittee, if an immediate family member, must be issued that person's moose permit. The new moose permit holder under this provision has the ability to name a subpermittee-designate and alternate subpermittee-designate.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-185)

This amendment replaces the bill. It requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to transfer a moose permit to a family member who meets eligibility and permit requirements and who is not otherwise prohibited from holding the moose permit if the permit holder dies at any time prior to or during the moose hunting season if a

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

moose has not yet been harvested under that permit.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 143 requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to transfer a moose permit to a family member who meets eligibility and permit requirements and who is not otherwise prohibited from holding the moose permit if the permit holder dies at any time prior to or during the moose hunting season if a moose has not yet been harvested under that permit.

LD 967 An Act To Reduce the Spread of Invasive Aquatic Plants by Prohibiting ONTP
Seine Fishing in Great Ponds

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ACKLEY K	ONTP	

This bill prohibits fishing using a seine in a great pond in which the Department of Environmental Protection has documented the occurrence of invasive aquatic plants.

LD 996 An Act To Establish a Special Handgun Hunting Season That Coincides ONTP
with the Muzzle-loading Open Season on Deer

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GUERIN S	ONTP	

This bill establishes a special handgun open season on deer that coincides with the special muzzle-loading season.

LD 1109 An Act Regarding All-terrain Vehicles PUBLIC 204

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN D JACKSON T	OTP-AM	H-272

This bill limits, by definition, the size of an all-terrain vehicle to 65 inches in width and 2,000 pounds in weight, prohibits operation of motor vehicles on a designated all-terrain vehicle trail that is not on a gravel road system and prohibits operation of all-terrain vehicles on trails posted with size or weight limitations unless that use has been authorized by the landowner or the landowner's agent.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-272)

This amendment:

1. Amends the definition of "ATV" to limit that definition to a motor-driven, off-road, recreational vehicle that was designed by the manufacturer for and is capable of cross-country travel. It preserves that portion of the bill that amends the definition of "ATV" to exclude a motor vehicle as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 101, subsection 42. It removes the size and weight limits added by the bill to the definition of "ATV"; and
2. Removes that section of the bill that prohibits the operation of an ATV on a trail posted with size or weight restrictions without authorization of the landowner.