

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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129TH 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 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

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.

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 204 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 and excludes a motor vehicle as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 101, subsection 42.

LD 1117 An Act To Encourage Turkey Hunting

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELLOWS S HICKMAN C		

This bill does the following.

1. It removes the requirement that person would need to obtain a permit to hunt wild turkey and the corresponding fee for that permit.
2. It removes the requirement that person must tag a wild turkey harvested at a registration station.
3. It removes the discretion of the commissioner to establish the number of and sex of wild turkey that a person could harvest and specifies that the commissioner must allow by rule a person to harvest four male wild turkeys in the spring and eight wild turkeys of either sex during the fall.
4. It requires a person to report at the end of the wild turkey hunting season to the department how many wild turkeys that person harvested.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 1118 An Act To Give the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Rule-making Authority To Establish a Bear Season Framework and Bag Limits

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P NADEAU C		

This bill does the following.

1. It reduces the resident bear hunting and trapping permit fees from \$27 to \$10, but retains the nonresident hunting permit fee at \$74 and the nonresident trapping fee at \$67.
2. It removes the statutorily set bear hunting and trapping season dates and gives the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to establish the bear hunting and trapping season dates by rule, but prohibits those seasons from starting any earlier than August 1st and ending any later than December 15th.
3. It removes the two bear harvesting limit for an individual annually for hunting and trapping bear and gives the commissioner the authority to establish the bag limit for the hunting or trapping bear in rule.
4. It removes the requirement that a cable trap have a closing diameter of not less than 2.5 inches and instead