

# 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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REP. SEAN C. PAULUS\*

**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

# STATE OF MAINE

129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



## 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*

This bill provides the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to change the closing date of the recreational ice-fishing season by rule. It also amends the rule-making provision of the law governing open seasons for fishing to explicitly provide for adoption of emergency rules.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 9 provides the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to change the closing date of the recreational ice-fishing season by rule. It also amends the rule-making provision of the law governing open seasons for fishing to explicitly provide for adoption of emergency rules.

Public Law 2019, chapter 9 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 25, 2019.

### **LD 1307 An Act To Promote Snowmobiling in Maine**

**PUBLIC 207**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TIMBERLAKE J NADEAU C	OTP-AM	S-113

This bill directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish an online notification process by which a nonresident who plans to operate in this State during the three-consecutive day period under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 13104, subsection 7, paragraph E a snowmobile that is not registered in this State may provide information, including the nonresident snowmobile operator's name, address, telephone number and e-mail address and the location or locations where the nonresident plans to operate the snowmobile, to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in order to promote seasonal nonresident snowmobile registration opportunities to nonresident snowmobile operators and to promote general snowmobile recreational activities in the State through regional state tourism organizations and a statewide organization with an interest in snowmobiling. It provides that failure to comply with the provision setting out the online notification process is not a violation of any law or rule of the department but that nothing in the provision relieves a person of the person's responsibilities under any law or rule regulating the ownership or operation of a snowmobile in the State.

It requires, as a condition of the three-consecutive day period during which a nonresident may operate an unregistered snowmobile in the State, use of the online notification process by the operator.

It also directs the Director of the Office of Tourism within the Department of Economic and Community Development to collaborate, within existing budgeted resources, with the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in the production and distribution through regional state tourism organizations and a statewide organization with an interest in snowmobiling of promotional materials relating to seasonal nonresident snowmobile registration and general snowmobile recreational opportunities using the information collected by the notification process.

The legislation takes effect on December 1, 2019.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (S-113)**

This amendment delays the effective date of the legislation to January 1, 2020.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 207 directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish an online notification process by which a nonresident who plans to operate in this State during the three-consecutive day period under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 13104, subsection 7, paragraph E a snowmobile that is not registered in this State may provide information, including the nonresident snowmobile operator's name, address, telephone number and e-mail address and the location or locations where the nonresident plans to operate the snowmobile, to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in order to promote seasonal nonresident

*Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

snowmobile registration opportunities to nonresident snowmobile operators and to promote general snowmobile recreational activities in the State through regional state tourism organizations and a statewide organization with an interest in snowmobiling. It provides that failure to comply with the provision setting out the online notification process is not a violation of any law or rule of the department but that nothing in the provision relieves a person of the person's responsibilities under any law or rule regulating the ownership or operation of a snowmobile in the State.

It requires, as a condition of the three-consecutive day period during which a nonresident may operate an unregistered snowmobile in the State, use of the online notification process by the operator.

It also directs the Director of the Office of Tourism within the Department of Economic and Community Development to collaborate, within existing budgeted resources, with the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in the production and distribution through regional state tourism organizations and a statewide organization with an interest in snowmobiling of promotional materials relating to seasonal nonresident snowmobile registration and general snowmobile recreational opportunities using the information collected by the notification process.

The law takes effect on January 1, 2020.

**LD 1488      An Act To Allow Holders of Gold Star Family Registration Plates To Be Issued Complimentary Licenses To Hunt, Trap and Fish      PUBLIC 443**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PECTEAU J TIMBERLAKE J	OTP-AM	H-426

This bill allows the holder of a registration certificate and a set of gold star family registration plates pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 524-B to be issued a complimentary license to hunt, trap and fish, including permits, stamps and other permissions needed to hunt.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-426)**

This amendment provides that the complimentary license to hunt, trap and fish made available under the bill to a person who holds a registration certificate and gold star family registration plates is available to only residents of the State and a lifetime license.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 443 allows a resident of the State that is the holder of a registration certificate and a set of gold star family registration plates pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 524-B to be issued a lifetime complimentary license to hunt, trap and fish, including permits, stamps and other permissions needed to hunt.

**LD 1525      An Act To Require Insurance on Motorized Watercraft      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE M		

This bill prohibits the owner of a motorboat of more than 75 horsepower from operating or allowing operation of the motorboat in the inland or tidal waters of the State without insurance on the motorboat similar to the financial responsibility provisions regarding motor vehicles. The bill requires the operator of the motorboat to provide proof of insurance, which may be in an acceptable electronic format, to a law enforcement officer upon request or, if the