

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

October 2023

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STATE OF MAINE
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**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILLS AND
SUMMARIES OF ENACTED LAWS**

This *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* provides the disposition of all LDs and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular and First Special Sessions of the 131st Maine Legislature. Please note that all LDs and proposed amendments may be found through the Legislature’s webpage, and each includes a summary of what the bill or amendment proposed.

The *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* is arranged alphabetically by committee. Within each committee section is a subject index of all LDs considered by that committee as well as a digest of the LDs, arranged by LD number. Also included are enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed. Brief analyst notes on certain LDs are also included: a committee digest will indicate if additional notes are provided for an LD. These notes add information staff found useful and may provide useful information to users of this *Digest*; please note that most LDs do not have a note and lack of a note should not be interpreted as having any significance. A separate section of the *Digest* provides a digest of the relatively few LDs that were not referred to a committee or reported from a committee as a committee bill; enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed are provided. Finally, an appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

The final disposition of each LD is noted in the relevant summary digest and index. 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 and First Special Sessions of the 131st Legislature is Thursday, June 29, 2023 and Wednesday, October 25, 2023, respectively. 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

LD 482 An Act to Extend the Time for Youth Deer Hunting

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 191 makes the following changes to Maine’s youth deer hunting day.

1. It establishes a 2-day youth deer hunting period for 2023 to begin 8 days before the start of the regular deer hunting season.
2. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to examine the impact of an additional dedicated youth deer hunting day on the deer population and wildlife management goals.
3. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the findings and recommendations of the examination and authorizes the committee to report out legislation on those findings in 2024.

Public Law 2023, chapter 191 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 16, 2023.

LD 491 Resolve, to Require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Develop a Plan for Communication Regarding Certain Municipal Regulation

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 26 requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to develop and report by January 1, 2024 to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife a plan to inform municipalities about the limits on local regulation of hunting, fishing and trapping and the operation of watercraft, snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles and a distribution scheme for the information.

LD 497 An Act to Prohibit the Use of Personal Watercraft on Keyes Pond in the Town of Sweden

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 106 prohibits the use of personal watercraft on Keyes Pond in the Town of Sweden.