

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

June 2024

STAFF:

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

MEMBERS:

SEN. DAVID LAFOUNTAIN, CHAIR
SEN. GLENN "CHIP" CURRY
SEN. RUSSELL BLACK

REP. H. SCOTT LANDRY, JR. CHAIR
REP. JAMES F. DILL
REP. CHERYL A. GOLEK
REP. SALLY JEANE CLUCHEY
REP. ALLISON HEPLER
REP. RICHARD G. MASON
REP. STEPHEN J. WOOD
REP. GARY A. DRINKWATER
REP. DAVID WOODSOME
REP. JAMES E. THORNE

STATE OF MAINE

131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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 Second Regular Session 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 Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature is Friday, August 9, 2024. 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 614 An Act to Reduce Conflicts Between Landowners and Deer and Add an Additional Youth Deer Hunting Day

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 593 makes the following changes related to the laws administered by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

1. It requires that funds from the Maine Deer Management Fund, within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, be used to help reduce conflicts between landowners and deer and directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to add a checkoff option on the department's online licensing system that allows a person to donate money for landowner-deer conflict prevention and management.
2. It removes the provision that \$2 of each deer registration fee deposition in the Maine Deer Management Fund be used for predator control and deer habitat purposes and instead provides that this money may be used to assist landowners with the prevention or management of deer conflicts.
3. It requires that revenue deposited in the Maine Deer Management Fund from antlerless deer permit fees, minus administrative costs, must be used for predator control purposes or to acquire or manage deer habitat.
4. It extends the youth deer hunting period from one day to two days and establishes that the period takes place on the Friday and Saturday preceding the Saturday designated as an open day for residents of the State.
5. It directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, by February 1, 2027, to provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters on the changes to youth deer hunting and gives the committee the authority to report out a bill based on the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

LD 1049 Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Marine Resources to Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to Address Aquatic Invasive Species

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 148 directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Marine Resources to enter into a memorandum of understanding to establish a process to plan for actions to control and prevent further spread of aquatic invasive species as fish passages are improved and fish barriers are removed statewide. The resolve directs the departments to include a requirement in the memorandum that the memorandum be updated at least every five years and that the departments provide notice to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters any time the

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

memorandum is reviewed and updated. The resolve also directs the departments to include a requirement in the memorandum that if changes are planned that reduce commitments outlined in the memorandum to control and prevent the further spread of aquatic invasive species at the dam on the Penobscot River in the Town of Medway or the dam on the Piscataquis River at Brown's Mill in the Town of Dover-Foxcroft, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters must be notified in writing prior to the changes being implemented.

LD 1342 An Act to Increase Funding for the Prevention and Control of Invasive Aquatic Species

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 612 increases the fees for new or renewal certificates of number for resident motorboats and personal watercraft and the fees for lake and river protection stickers for all motorboats and personal watercraft not registered in the State and for seaplanes operating on inland waters of the State. Beginning January 1, 2025, the fees for certificates of number are increased by \$10 and the fees for lake and river protection stickers are increased by \$15 and, beginning January 1, 2028, the fees are increased by an additional \$10 for certificates of number and by an additional \$15 for lake and river protection stickers.

Public Law 2023, chapter 612 also makes a change to how fees are allocated so that, beginning January 1, 2025, 70% of fees are credited to the Invasive Aquatic Plant and Nuisance Species Fund, rather than 80% as in current law, and 30% of fees, rather than 20% as in current law, are credited to the Lake and River Protection Fund.

LD 2052 An Act to Provide Additional Moose Hunting Opportunities for Maine Youth Experiencing Critical Illnesses

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 526 increases from two to five the number of moose hunting permits that may be issued to nonprofit organizations that provide hunting and fishing adventures to children with life-threatening, critical or terminal illnesses and specifies that at least three of the permits must be issued to an organization based in the State and given to children who are residents of the State.