

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**

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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 1319 An Act to Exempt Certain Boat Operators from Having to Become Maine Guides

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 226 makes the following changes to the laws governing the operation of a watercraft without a guide license as an employee of a seasonal business engaged in instruction in recreational activities.

1. It allows a person who has completed an approved boater safety education course and is certified in first aid to operate a watercraft without a guide license as an employee of a seasonal business engaged in instruction in recreational activities during the 2023 recreational boating season.
2. It directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a stakeholder group to examine the guide requirements for recreational sports.
3. It directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to report the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than January 15, 2024. The committee may report out a bill related to recreational guide requirements to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

Public Law 2023, chapter 226 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 20, 2023.

LD 1525 An Act to Allow for a Suspension of Licenses and Permits Issued Under the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws for a Deferred Disposition or Written Filing Agreement

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 265 allows for the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to suspend any license issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for a deferred disposition or when there is a written filing agreement with the State.

LD 1807 An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Report on Boater Safety Education

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 206 makes the following changes to the laws governing boater safety education requirements in Maine.