

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

JULY 1999

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees
August 1999

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is organized by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

CARRIED OVER..... *Bill carried over to Second Regular Session*
CON RES XXX..... *Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses*
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE..... *Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died*
DIED BETWEEN BODIES..... *House & Senate disagree; bill died*
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... *One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill*
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... *Action incomplete when session ended; bill died*
EMERGENCY..... *Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days*
ENACTMENT FAILED..... *Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage*
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... *Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died*
INDEF PP..... *Bill Indefinitely Postponed*
ONTP..... *Ought Not To Pass report accepted*
OTP ND..... *Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft*
OTP ND/NT..... *Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title*
P&S XXX..... *Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*
PUBLIC XXX..... *Chapter # of enacted Public Law*
RESOLVE XXX..... *Chapter # of finally passed Resolve*
UNSIGNED..... *Bill held by Governor*
VETO SUSTAINED..... *Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto*

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999.

LD 543 **An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Purchase of Liquor by Commercial Entities** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PIEH KILKELLY | ONTP | |

LD 543 proposed to permit persons authorized to sell liquor for on-premise consumption to purchase liquor from a state discount liquor store at the discount retail price and require wholesale licensees to accept returns of malt liquor and wine purchased by retail and on-premise licensees.

LD 560 **An Act to Promote Ballot Clarity** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| O'NEIL | ONTP | |

LD 560 proposed to require that all referendum questions proposed by the Legislature, including bond issues, constitutional resolutions and referendum questions required by a referendum clause, be reviewed by the Secretary of State. This review would have been conducted through a ballot clarity board created by the Secretary of State.

LD 583 **An Act to Promote Competition in the State's Liquor Industry** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DAGGETT LEMONT | ONTP | |

LD 583 proposed to repeal the section of law that imposes pricing limits on agency liquor stores.

LD 594 **An Act to Privatize the Liquor Industry** **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| LIBBY | ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN | |

LD 594 proposed to eliminate state and agency liquor stores as well as price-setting and wholesale activities by the State. The Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations and the Bureau of Liquor Enforcement would have maintained the power to collect taxes, issue licenses and ensure compliance with the state liquor laws under this bill.