

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

Staff:

*Danielle D. Fox, Legislative Analyst
Christopher J. Spruce, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

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Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

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.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 176 makes forging, manufacturing or passing false lottery tickets a Class D crime.

LD 1431 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine INDEF PP
to Require Signatures from All Counties on Direct Initiative Petitions

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

LD 1431 proposed to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that at least 6% of the number of signatures required on a petition to directly initiate legislation be collected in each of the 16 counties.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-487), which was not adopted, proposed to strike the provision that requires that 6% of the total number of signatures on a direct initiative petition be collected in each county. It proposed to replace that provision with the requirement that signatures be collected in each county equal to an amount no less than 6% of the total vote in that county in the last gubernatorial election.

LD 1438 An Act to Allow for Expeditious Improvements to Commercial Tracks CARRIED OVER

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

LD 1438, which has been carried over to the Second Regular Session, proposes to allow for interim payments to persons licensed to conduct pari-mutuel wagering on horse racing from the fund into which is deposited a portion of the revenue credited to the General Fund that is attributable to total wagers in excess of \$35,000,000. It also would allow commercial tracks to accumulate the balance in their share of the fund from year to year, thereby allowing tracks to fund large capital improvements.

LD 1439 An Act to Ensure the Preservation of Maine's Commercial Racetracks CARRIED OVER

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

LD 1439, which has been carried over to the Second Regular Session, proposes to allow reimbursement to commercial racetracks for expenditures needed to enhance, preserve or restore their facilities or related assets.