

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 1504**An Act to Amend the Lobbyist Registration Fee Provisions****CARRIED OVER**Sponsor(s)
CAREYCommittee ReportAmendments Adopted

LD 1504, which has been carried over to the Second Regular Session, proposes to reduce the registration fee paid annually by lobbyists and lobbyist associates and is proposing to provide for all fees collected to be credited to a dedicated lobbyist registration fee account administered by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. The bill also would provide that the electronic filing system administered by the commission must be funded by the Maine Clean Election Fund; lobbyist registration fees, penalties and certain other revenues; and by other entities that may benefit from the electronic filing system.

LD 1544**An Act to Study the Effectiveness of Harness Racing Promotions****CARRIED OVER**Sponsor(s)
DUNLAPCommittee ReportAmendments Adopted

LD 1544 has been carried over to the Second Regular Session. Part A of this bill is proposing to abolish the Harness Racing Promotional Board effective July 10, 2000. Part B of this bill proposes to establish the Commission to Study the Effectiveness of Harness Racing Promotions, which will report to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature no later than January 10, 2000.

LD 1555**An Act to Maintain the Viability of Maine's Liquor Industry****ONTP**Sponsor(s)
KIEFFER
SAXL MCommittee Report
ONTPAmendments Adopted

LD 1555 proposed to remove restrictions on the number of agency store licenses that may be granted by the Bureau of Liquor Enforcement in order to allow less-restricted transfers of retail and agency liquor store license to different locations within the same municipality.