

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
121st Legislature*

*First Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

*July 2003*

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# Maine State Legislature



## Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis Office Of Fiscal And Program Review

### 121st Maine Legislature First Regular Session

#### Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint 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 committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name 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](http://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:

<i>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i> .....	<i>Bills carried over to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i> .....	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i> .....	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i> .....	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i> .....	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i> .....	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i> .....	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i> .....	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i> .....	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i> .....	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP-ND</i> .....	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i> .....	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i> .....	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> .....	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 13, 2003.

**David C. Elliott, Director**  
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*Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

LD 41

**An Act to Specify the Public Status of Disputed Ballots**

ONTP

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

LD 41 proposed to require the Secretary of State to make available for public inspection disputed ballots arising from an election recount.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-153)** proposed to specify that copies of disputed ballots in an election recount must be made available to the public for 60 days after the election has been resolved. The amendment also proposed to require the Secretary of State to ensure the privacy of voters and the integrity of the ballots. This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 54**

**An Act to Amend the Liquor Law as it Pertains to Special Taste-testing Festival Licenses**

**PUBLIC 91**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BULL MAYO	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-98

LD 54 proposed to amend the law regarding special taste-testing festivals for breweries and farm wineries to allow greater participation by all breweries in Maine by removing the requirement that they may only be small breweries. It also proposed to expand the scope of the special once-a-year license to include out-of-state breweries and farm wineries subject to rules adopted by the Bureau of Liquor Enforcement within the Department of Public Safety.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-98)** was the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs. It proposed to replace the bill and clarify who may apply for a special taste-testing festival license and remove the provisions that permit out-of-state manufacturers of malt beverages to be licensed.

**Committee Amendment "B" (H-99)** which was not adopted, was the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs. It proposed to clarify who may apply for a special taste-testing festival license and would have permitted out-of-state breweries to participate in the festival.

***Enacted Law Summary***

Public Law 2003, chapter 91 amends the law establishing special taste-testing festivals for small breweries and farm wineries to also permit in-state malt liquor manufactures to participate in the taste-testing festival.