

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
121st Legislature*

*Second Regular Session and  
Second Special Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

*May 2004*

**Staff:**

*Danielle D. Fox, Legislative Analyst  
Lucia Nixon, Legislative Analyst*

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

**Members:**

*Sen. Kenneth T. Gagnon, Chair  
Sen. Kenneth F. Lemont  
Sen. Arthur F. Mayo III*

*Rep. Joseph E. Clark, Chair  
Rep. John L. Patrick  
Rep. Patricia A. Blanchette  
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Rep. Richard B. Brown  
Rep. Randy E. Hotham*

*Maine State Legislature*



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

*121st Maine Legislature  
Second Regular Session and  
Second Special 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/billsumm.htm](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla/billsumm.htm)).

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:

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
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	Bill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT .....	Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
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
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PASSED.....	Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is April 30, 2004; and non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Special Session is July 30, 2004. Four bills (LD's 1572, 1629, 1636 and 1637) that were considered at the First Special Session in August 2003 are also included in these summaries.

*David C. Elliott, Director*  
**Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building**

*Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

**LD 1027**

**Resolve, Directing the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices To Adopt Rules Regarding Certain Election Practices**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s) LEMOINE	Committee Report ONTP	Amendments Adopted
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LD 1027 proposed to amend the law regarding disclosure of campaign communications, specifically automated telephone calls and mass mailings made by or on behalf of a candidate in the 2 weeks before an election. The resolve proposed to direct the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to adopt rules requiring that a copy of the transcript of the automated telephone call or a copy of the mass mailing be filed with the commission before the telephone call or the mailing is conducted, when that communication is conducted in the 2 weeks before an election. The resolve proposed to require the commission to make the transcript of the telephone call or copy of the mailing available for public inspection.

**LD 1242**

**An Act To Recognize the Regional Impact of Casino-style Gambling Facilities**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s) LEMOINE	Committee Report ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	Amendments Adopted
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LD 1242 proposed to provide that before a facility at which casino-style gambling is conducted, the operation of such a facility must be approved by the legislative body or voters of the municipality in which the facility is to be located and the legislative body or voters of each municipality that abuts the municipality in which the facility is to be located.

**LD 1339**

**An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Campaign Finance**

**PUBLIC 615**

Sponsor(s) CANAVAN GAGNON	Committee Report OTP-AM	Amendments Adopted H-828
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LD 1339 proposed to amend the campaign finance laws by:

1. Requiring a political advertisement broadcast on television or radio to contain an image, if on television, and statement regarding the sponsorship of the ad, spoken by the candidate, treasurer of the candidate's authorized political committee, candidate's party committee or their agents or, if sponsored by a political action committee, the chief decision maker or treasurer of that political action committee or, if sponsored by an individual without any connection to the candidate or political action committee, that individual;