

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).

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 2nd 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 & 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&S XXX</i> | <i>Chapter # of enacted Private & 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
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs

LD 1362

An Act Regarding Disclosures Required on Advertising by Candidates

ONTP

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> SNOWE-MELLO | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|

LD 1362 proposed to clarify the information required to be disclosed on candidates' advertisements. Under the proposed bill, for a candidate participating in the Maine Clean Election Act, an advertisement would indicate that it is paid for with taxpayer funds. For a nonparticipating candidate, an advertisement would indicate that it is paid for by funds raised by the candidate.

LD 1371

An Act To Allow Slot Machines at Commercial Horse Racing Tracks

ONTP

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

LD 1371, which was an initiated bill, proposed to allow the operation of slot machines by certain persons who are licensed to operate a commercial track. As proposed in the bill, a person under 21 years of age would be prohibited from playing a slot machine. The initiated bill proposed to provide for regulation of the operation of slot machines by the State Harness Racing Commission and the Executive Director of the State Harness Racing Commission within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. Under the proposed bill, gross income from slot machines, which is income after payback to players, would be divided as follows: 75% would be retained by the person licensed to operate the slot machines; 10% would be required to be sent to the State Controller to be credited directly to the Fund for a Healthy Maine with its use restricted to providing financial assistance with prescription drugs for adults who are elderly or disabled; 7% would be required to be sent to the State Harness Racing Commission to be used to supplement harness racing purses; 3% would be required to be forwarded to the Treasurer of State who shall credit the money to the Agricultural Fair Support Fund; 2% would be required to be forwarded to the Finance Authority of Maine for application to its University of Maine System Scholarship Fund; 1% would be required to be sent to the commission for application to administrative expenses, including expenditures by the commission for addiction counseling services; 1% would be required to be sent to the board of trustees of the Maine Technical College System for application to its scholarship program and 1% would be required to be sent to the commission for application to its Sire Stakes Fund.