

State Of Maine 122nd Legislature

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs

July 2006

<u>Members</u>: Sen. Kenneth T. Gagnon, Chair Sen. Elizabeth H. Mitchell Sen. Debra D. Plowman

> Rep. John L. Patrick, Chair Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr. Rep. Charles D. Fisher Rep. Linda M. Valentino Rep. Randy E. Hotham Rep. Richard B. Brown Rep. Gary W. Moore Rep. David N. Ott Rep. Wright H. Pinkham, Sr. Rep. Joan M. Nass Rep. Frederick J. Moore, III

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Maine State Legislature



Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Office of Fiscal and Program Review

122nd Maine Legislature Second 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 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, <u>History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents</u>, 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).

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	
DIED IN CONCURRENCEOne	body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	
EMERGENCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
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: hill died
INDEF PP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP	
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 (Pocket Veto)	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED	Bill held by Governor

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 August 23, 2006.

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

House Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "B" (H-1016), which was not adopted, proposed to replace the bill with a resolve. The resolve directs the Liquor Licensing and Tax Division within the Department of Public Safety to conduct a study and convene a meeting of interested stakeholders to review and study the laws of alcohol regulation, including the issues associated with out-of-state sales and direct distribution to consumers in the State. The study would require a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over alcoholic beverage matters by January 30, 2007.

House Amendment "C" to Committee Amendment "B" (H-1055) proposed to replace the bill with a resolve. The resolve directs the Liquor Licensing and Tax Division within the Department of Public Safety to conduct a study and convene a meeting of interested stakeholders to review and study the laws of alcohol regulation, including the issues associated with out-of-state sales and direct distribution to consumers in the State. The study would require a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over alcoholic beverage matters by January 30, 2007.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2005, chapter 206 directs the Liquor Licensing and Tax Division within the Department of Public Safety to conduct a study and convene a meeting of interested stakeholders to review and study the laws of alcohol regulation, including the issues associated with out-of-state sales and direct distribution to consumers in the State. The study requires a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over alcoholic beverage matters by January 30, 2007.

LD 1112RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution ofONTPMaine To Change the Legislative Term to 4 years

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedJACKSONONTPMARTIN

LD 1112, a Resolution to amend the Constitution of Maine, proposed to change Legislators' terms to 4 years in time for the general election in 2006. Under this proposal, the Legislature would meet every year, but business in the 2nd year and 4th year would be restricted as it is presently in the 2nd year.

LD 1145	An Act To Allow Tournament Games for Charitable Purposes	DIED ON
	-	ADJOURNMENT

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
PATRICK	OTP-AM	H-550
BRYANT B		

LD 1145 proposed to authorize nonprofit organizations and federally recognized Indian tribes who are licensed to conduct high-stakes beano to conduct Texas hold 'em poker games in which a player must pay a \$100 fee to play, of which \$25 goes to the nonprofit organization or Indian tribe.