

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL  
AFFAIRS**

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# STATE OF MAINE

128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 128<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

*CARRIED OVER*..... carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature  
*CON RES XXX*..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses  
*CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died  
*DIED BETWEEN HOUSES*..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died  
*DIED IN CONCURRENCE*..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died  
*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died  
*EMERGENCY*..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment  
*FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote  
*FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... failed to receive final majority vote  
*FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT*..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote  
*HELD BY GOVERNOR*..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session  
*LEAVE TO WITHDRAW*..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY*..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died  
*INDEF PP*..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died  
*ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X*... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died  
*P&S XXX*..... chapter # of enacted private & special law  
*PUBLIC XXX*..... chapter # of enacted public law  
*RESOLVE XXX*..... chapter # of finally passed resolve  
*VETO SUSTAINED*..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

*Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs*

**LD 271      An Act for Providers across Multiple Sectors To Inquire of Clients and Customers about Former Military Service**

**Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHEATS B CARSON B	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes that the Department of Health and Human Services conduct an effort similar to the effort conducted by the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services to coordinate public and private service providers in the areas of aging and senior services, children's services and school systems, employment and vocational services, faith-based groups and health care and medical services to inquire about former military service of clients and customers to identify veterans and direct them and their families to resources and benefits of which the veterans may not be aware or are reluctant to receive.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-406)**

This amendment, the majority report, replaces the bill. It requires the Director of the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to establish a program to support a community-based veteran service referral program. The program provides written and Internet-based materials and literature to state agencies, quasi-governmental agencies, local government service providers and private organizations, including a checklist of questions the service provider should ask an individual seeking assistance, including, "Have you or a member of your family ever served in the military?" The materials must also include a comprehensive list of services for which a veteran may be eligible.

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 295      An Act To Amend the Requirements for a Political Party To Retain Qualified Party Status under the Election Laws**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LUCHINI L	ONTP	

This bill amends the requirements for a political party to retain qualified party status. It allows a party to retain that status if the party's nominee for President of the United States or Governor received at least 5% of the total vote cast in the State for President or Governor in the last general election. This provision applies to any party whose nominee for President appeared on the ballot at the general election on November 8, 2016.

**LD 296      An Act To Restrict Advertising of and Improve Fairness for State Lottery Games**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RYKERSON D	ONTP	

This bill requires prizes for state lotteries to have an annual aggregate payback of 90% of gross revenues or greater. The bill also states that rules adopted by the State Liquor and Lottery Commission must prohibit marketing, advertising and promotion of state lotteries except at locations where lottery tickets are sold. Finally, the bill