

# 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*

Current law allows a brewery, winery or wholesaler to provide to a retail licensee samples of products, limited to nine gallons of malt liquor and nine liters of wine annually. This bill increases the annual limit to 18 gallons of malt liquor and 18 liters of wine.

Current law allows a licensed sales representative for a distilled spirits manufacturer or supplier to give to a retail licensee a maximum of three liters per year per distiller represented by the sales representative. This bill increases the annual limit to six liters per distiller.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Current law allows a brewery, winery or wholesaler to provide to a retail licensee samples of products, limited to nine gallons of malt liquor and nine liters of wine annually. Public Law 2017, chapter 35 increases the annual limit to 18 gallons of malt liquor and 18 liters of wine.

Current law allows a licensed sales representative for a distilled spirits manufacturer or supplier to give to a retail licensee a maximum of three liters per year per distiller represented by the sales representative. Public Law 2017, chapter 35 increases the annual limit to six liters per distiller.

**LD 438      An Act To Provide a Travel Reimbursement to Members of the Maine National Guard      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEWART H CARPENTER M	ONTP	

This bill allows a member of the Maine National Guard to obtain reimbursement for travel to and from authorized training exercises at the same rate paid to state employees who use their private vehicles for travel for state business.

**LD 439      An Act To Allow Voters To Choose Ongoing Absentee Voter Status      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FECTEAU R BELLOWS S	ONTP	

This bill provides a process for a voter to request ongoing absentee voter status, which allows the voter to automatically receive an absentee ballot for each statewide election until the status is terminated.

**LD 440      An Act To Expand Absentee Balloting To Include Certain Residents in Independent Living Facilities      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HOGAN G CHENETTE J	ONTP	

This bill requires municipal clerks to conduct absentee voting in independent living facilities at the request of the management company managing the facility. The balloting must be conducted in the presence of an election official.