

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON MARIJUANA
LEGALIZATION IMPLEMENTATION**

August 2017

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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 128th 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 128th 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.

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revenue to the municipality where the tax-paying dispensary is located, 45% of the tax revenue to the Department of Health and Human Services to fund regulatory oversight and enforcement of sales of limited marijuana retail products as well as efforts by the department to deter use of marijuana by persons under 21 years of age and the remaining 45% to the bureau to fund administration, regulatory development and enforcement of the Marijuana Legalization Act. It also imposes state sales tax on limited marijuana retail products.

3. It imposes additional financial qualifications on applicants for retail marijuana establishments and retail marijuana social clubs to ensure future regulatory compliance.
4. It imposes annual financial audit responsibilities on all license holders.
5. It removes the requirement that a dispensary under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act be incorporated under the Maine Nonprofit Corporation Act and operated on a not-for-profit basis and exempts such reorganizations from the requirement to obtain court approval or provide notice.
6. It imposes Maine state residency requirements on all applicants. It also allows for the transfer of a retail marijuana establishment or social club license to a person or entity that does not meet the residency requirement and allows for investment in a retail marijuana establishment or social club license by a person or entity that does not meet the residency requirement once the retail marijuana establishment or social club licensee has been operational for two years.
7. It allows for an entity or individual with a minority ownership interest in a retail marijuana testing facility to also have an ownership interest in a retail marijuana establishment or retail marijuana social club to encourage investment in retail marijuana testing facilities. It prohibits testing facilities from testing retail marijuana and retail marijuana products from or intended to be sold at a medical dispensary, by a caregiver or at a retail marijuana establishment or social club in which the retail marijuana testing facility licensee has any financial interest.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

LD 1499 **An Act To Better Regulate Marijuana**

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)
JACKSON T

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

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

It proposes to revise the laws regarding recreational marijuana sales and use to:

1. Change the state licensing authority from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations;
2. Clarify the licensing preferences for medical marijuana dispensaries and caregivers under the Marijuana Legalization Act;
3. Establish a provisional license to allow marijuana dispensaries licensed under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act to participate in the retail sale of marijuana prior to the establishment of licenses for retail marijuana establishments;
4. Expand protections for minors by modeling the laws regarding distribution, possession and use of marijuana by persons under 21 years of age on the laws prohibiting the distribution, possession and use of alcohol by persons

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under 21 years of age;

- 5. Establish a special marijuana tax at the rate of 10% on the retail sale of marijuana by marijuana dispensaries. This tax is in addition to the sales tax currently imposed on medical marijuana and is only imposed until the retail sale of marijuana by other establishments is authorized by the bureau;
- 6. Modify the record-keeping, audit and other compliance requirements of a person licensed as a retail marijuana establishment or retail marijuana social club;
- 7. Authorize a nonprofit medical marijuana dispensary to reorganize as a for-profit entity; and
- 8. Increase the sales tax on retail marijuana and marijuana products from 10% to 20%.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

LD 1596 An Act To Establish the Cannabis Advisory Commission

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JORGENSEN E DESCHAMBAULT S		

This bill establishes the Cannabis Advisory Commission for the purpose of conducting a continuing study of the laws related to cannabis.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

LD 1641 An Act To Amend the Marijuana Legalization Act Regarding Retail Marijuana Testing Facilities

**PUBLIC 309
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
		S-326 HAMPER J

This bill was reported out by the Joint Select Committee on Marijuana Legalization Implementation pursuant to a joint order.

This bill amends the Marijuana Legalization Act with respect to the requirements for retail marijuana testing facilities and the testing of marijuana and marijuana products as follows.

- 1. It clarifies requirements for the testing of marijuana and marijuana products, including the mandatory testing of retail marijuana and retail marijuana products for homogeneity and cannabinoid profiles.
- 2. It clarifies licensing and operational requirements for retail marijuana testing facilities, including requirements that such facilities:
 - A. Be certified by the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, be accredited pursuant to standard ISO/IEC 17025 of the International Organization for Standardization by a third-party accrediting body, or be certified, registered or accredited by an organization approved by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, and be licensed or approved by the municipality in which the facility is physically located. It authorizes issuance of a provisional retail marijuana testing facility license to a testing facility that has applied for but not yet obtained certification, registration or