

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2019

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STATE OF MAINE

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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 129th 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 129th Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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

2019.

LD 131 An Act To Permit a Veterans Organization To Lease Its Facility to an Organization That Is Registered To Operate Beano or Bingo Games without Obtaining a Commercial Beano Hall Permit

**PUBLIC 24
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRYANT M DESCHAMBAULT S	OTP-AM	H-16

This bill exempts a veterans organization from the requirement to obtain a commercial beano hall permit in order to lease its facility to an organization registered to operate "beano" or "bingo" games.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-16)

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill and makes technical changes to the statutes governing "beano" and "bingo." The amendment clarifies that a charitable, educational, political, civic, recreational, fraternal, patriotic, religious or veterans organization that seeks to obtain a registration to conduct "beano" or "bingo" must be a bona fide nonprofit organization.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 24 exempts a veterans organization from the requirement to obtain a commercial beano hall permit in order to lease its facility to an organization registered to operate "beano" or "bingo" games. It also makes a technical change to the statutes governing "beano" and "bingo" to clarify that a charitable, educational, political, civic, recreational, fraternal, patriotic, religious or veterans organization that seeks to obtain a registration to conduct "beano" or "bingo" games must be a bona fide nonprofit organization.

Public Law 2019, chapter 24 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 11, 2019.

LD 158 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Beano

PUBLIC 56

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FARRIN B NADEAU C	OTP-AM	S-42

This bill removes the requirement that beano games conducted by organizations such as volunteer fire departments, agricultural fair associations and nonprofit, charitable, educational, political, civic, recreational, fraternal, patriotic, religious or veterans' organizations be conducted by members of those organizations and instead requires that beano games conducted by these organizations be conducted in the presence of at least one member of the organization.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-42)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. Like the bill, the amendment removes the requirement in current law that beano or bingo games conducted by an organization such as a volunteer fire department, agricultural fair association or nonprofit association must be conducted entirely by members of the organization. Under the amendment, the beano or bingo games must be conducted under the exclusive control of an adult member of the organization, who may be assisted by other individuals. The amendment defines "member" to mean an individual duly admitted as a member according to the laws, rules, regulations, ordinances or bylaws governing the organization.

The amendment also makes a technical change to the laws governing beano and bingo to clarify that a charitable,

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

educational, political, civic, recreational, fraternal, patriotic, religious or veterans' organization that seeks to obtain a registration to conduct beano or bingo must be a bona fide nonprofit organization.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 56 removes the requirement in current law that beano or bingo games conducted by an organization such as a volunteer fire department, agricultural fair association or nonprofit association must be conducted entirely by members of the organization. The beano or bingo games must be conducted under the exclusive control of an adult member of the organization, who may be assisted by other individuals. A "member" of an organization is defined as an individual duly admitted as a member according to the laws, rules, regulations, ordinances or bylaws governing the organization.

Public Law 2019, chapter 56 also makes a technical change to the laws governing beano and bingo to clarify that a charitable, educational, political, civic, recreational, fraternal, patriotic, religious or veterans' organization that seeks to obtain a registration to conduct beano or bingo games must be a bona fide nonprofit organization.

LD 171 Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Project To Evaluate and Address the CARRIED OVER
Transportation Needs of Maine's Veterans

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHEATS B CARSON B	OTP-AM	H-116

This resolve establishes a 30-month pilot project in Oxford, Franklin and Androscoggin counties to provide transportation to veterans and their caregivers or dependents to and from employment or employment-related services, medical appointments, mental health services, social services and community activities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-116)

This amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This resolve was reported out of committee and then carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 184 An Act To Amend the Veterans' Homelessness Prevention Coordination PUBLIC 504
Program EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DEVEAU J FARRIN B	OTP-AM	H-117 S-325 BREEN C

This bill repeals and replaces the provisions of law regarding veterans' homelessness prevention coordination. Unlike current law, which requires the Director of the Bureau of Maine Veterans Services to establish a single partnership to conduct the program with a national veterans services organization that has been in existence for at least 30 years, the bill allows the director to establish multiple partnerships with human services-based veterans organizations that have been active in the State for at least two years, with priority given to organizations founded, chartered or organized in Maine. It changes the order of priorities for the partnerships, prioritizing identifying and securing temporary or permanent living space for veterans within the veterans' communities over conducting annual outreach events. It also establishes a nonlapsing fund to support services for homeless veterans and directs Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services to collaborate with the Department of Economic and Community Development to distribute any funds.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-117)