

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
129<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**

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 129<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 129<sup>th</sup> 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.

**LD 253**

**An Act To Clarify the Requirements for High-hand Competitions in Games of Chance Tournament Games**

**PUBLIC 119**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELLOWS S HICKMAN C	OTP-AM	S-64

This bill removes the \$5 bet limit for a winner-take-all hand that is conducted during a tournament involving a card game that is a game of chance.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-64)**

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It removes the authority in current law for one winner-take-all-hand to be conducted during a tournament involving a card game that is a game of chance and instead authorizes licensees to conduct one high-hand competition per tournament. Under the amendment, a "high-hand competition" is defined as an optional game of chance conducted during a tournament game in which the winner is the person who plays the highest hand of cards, according to the rules of the tournament, during the tournament game. Participation in the high-hand competition must be determined prior to the start of the tournament and the total number of bets received in a high-hand competition must be awarded to the winner or, in the case of multiple winners, divided among them as evenly as possible.

The amendment also authorizes the payment of tournament game prizes and high-hand competition prizes either in cash or by check.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 119 removes the authority in current law for one winner-take-all-hand to be conducted during a tournament involving a card game that is a game of chance and instead authorizes licensees to conduct one high-hand competition per tournament. A "high-hand competition" is defined as an optional game of chance conducted during a tournament game in which the winner is the person who plays the highest hand of cards, according to the rules of the tournament, during the tournament game. Participation in the high-hand competition must be determined prior to the start of the tournament and the total number of bets received in a high-hand competition must be awarded to the winner or, in the case of multiple winners, divided among them as evenly as possible.

Public Law 2019, chapter 119 also authorizes the payment of tournament game prizes and high-hand competition prizes either in cash or by check.

**LD 254**

**An Act To Clarify Liquor Label Approval and Registration Requirements**

**PUBLIC 46**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DILL J DUNPHY M	OTP-AM	S-27

This bill requires that all malt liquor, wine and low-alcohol spirits products imported to, exported from or sold in Maine bear a label approved by the United States Department of the Treasury, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau unless the malt liquor, wine or low-alcohol spirits products are manufactured in Maine and are not shipped, distributed or sold in interstate commerce.

The bill also requires manufacturers to register the labels of all malt liquor, wine and low-alcohol spirits products sold in the State with the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and