

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

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

August 2025

MEMBERS:

SEN. CRAIG V. HICKMAN, CHAIR
SEN. JILL C. DUSON
SEN. JEFFREY L. TIMBERLAKE

REP. LAURA D. SUPICA, CHAIR
REP. LORI K. GRAMLICH*
REP. ANNE P. GRAHAM
REP. MARC G. MALON, II
REP. PARNELL WILLIAM TERRY
REP. DAVID W. BOYER, JR.
REP. ANN FREDERICKS
REP. QUENTIN J. CHAPMAN
REP. BENJAMIN C. HYMES
REP. SHARON C. FROST
REP. SEAN FAIRCLOTH*

STAFF:

RACHEL OLSON, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
KAREN NADEAU, SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla>

*Committee member for a portion of the session

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

9. It provides that, in order to receive a liquor license, a hotel must have a minimum of four guest rooms and be licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services. It authorizes licensed hotels to permit consumers to transport liquor to individual guest rooms.
10. It amends the bureau's annual reporting requirements to provide statements regarding lottery operations and liquor licensing operations for the preceding fiscal year rather than the calendar year.
11. It provides that, beginning January 1, 2026, a licensee or an applicant for a license may not receive, directly or indirectly, cash or gift cards in any amount. It prohibits the bureau from imposing a limit on the amount of things of value that are in use by a licensee at any one time, as long as the thing of value was given to a licensee in accordance with the law.
12. It allows a wholesale licensee or certificate of approval holder, including on behalf of a brand the wholesale licensee or certificate of approval holder supplies or manufactures, to enter into advertising and sponsorship agreements with licensed venues. It defines "brand" as a product name of malt liquor, wine or spirit authorized for sale in the State by a wholesale licensee or certificate of approval holder. It authorizes naming rights, event sponsorships and co-branded promotions under specified conditions, including reporting requirements, written agreements and safeguards to ensure availability of competing products.
13. It clarifies the ability for restaurants to serve canned cocktails.
14. It amends the section of law governing signage restrictions for liquor licensees.

Public Law 2025, chapter 230 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 10, 2025.

LD 600 An Act to Initiate Recounts in Tied Elections

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 114 requires the Secretary of State to automatically initiate a recount when there is an apparent tie vote in an election. It allows any candidate other than the apparent winner to file a request for a recount with the Secretary of State. It requires the municipal clerk to automatically initiate a recount in the case of a tie vote when a secret ballot is used for the election of town officials or for municipal referenda elections at a town meeting.

LD 631 An Act to Allow a Home Distiller to Distill and Share Homemade Spirituous Liquor

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 313 allows the owner of a home distillery to produce distilled spirits solely for personal use, including, but not limited to, personal consumption or serving the product

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

to the owner's family members and guests to be consumed on the premises where the home distillery is located.

The law prohibits the owner of a home distillery from having on the premises stills or distilling apparatuses that have a mash capacity of more than 15.5 gallons; producing in a calendar year more than 24 gallons of distilled spirits per person 21 years of age or older residing on the premises where the home distillery is located; producing more than 48 gallons in a calendar year; or selling or offering for sale any spirits produced in the home distillery. It specifies that a violation of these provisions is a Class E crime.

LD 662 An Act to Support Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma and Active Duty Military Members Transitioning to Civilian Life

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 368 does the following.

1. It provides an ongoing annual transfer of \$200,000 from the Medical Use of Cannabis Fund to the Active Duty Military Transition to Civilian Life Fund established within the Department of Economic and Community Development to support organizations in the State that conduct outreach and provide support services to active duty military members and their families who are transitioning to civilian life.
2. It creates the Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma Program within the Department of Health and Human Services to assist organizations in the State that provide housing and support services for unhoused veterans and their children and for survivors of military sexual trauma.
3. It provides an ongoing annual transfer of \$285,000 from the Medical Use of Cannabis Fund to the Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma Fund established within the Department of Health and Human Services to support organizations in the State that provide housing and support services for unhoused veterans and their children and for survivors of military sexual trauma.
4. It modifies the provision of law governing the Medical Use of Cannabis Fund to allow the fund to be used for these purposes.

Public Law 2025, chapter 368 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 19, 2025.

LD 665 An Act Regarding the Use of Military Protective Orders in Protection from Abuse and Protection from Harassment Proceedings

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 90 defines "military protective order" as a protection order given by a military commanding officer against a service member under the officer's command. The law