

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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

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candidate is declared the winner of an election determined by ranked-choice voting and the procedures in an election determined by ranked-choice voting involving an excluded candidate.

LD 1033 An Act to Regulate Alcoholic Beverage Competitions

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 315 authorizes one or more certificate of approval holders that are manufacturers to apply for a permit to host a liquor judging competition event subject to conditions. The law provides that a certificate of approval holder issued a liquor judging competition event permit may charge a fee for participation in a competition event and the competition event is not required to occur on premises licensed by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations.

The law also specifies that only judges and stewards may taste liquor entries in a liquor judging competition event; homemade spirits may not be entered into a liquor judging competition event; and liquor may not be sold or offered for sale at a liquor judging competition event. It authorizes the bureau to adopt rules to administer the law regulating liquor judging competition events. It also defines “homemade liquor” to mean malt liquor, wine or hard cider made by a person’s own efforts in the person’s home for personal use that is not offered for sale and that does not contain added spirits.

LD 1148 Resolve, Directing the Secretary of State to Study Providing Access to Absentee Ballots for Municipal Elections to Uniformed Service Voters or Overseas Voters in the Same Manner as Absentee Ballots for Statewide Elections

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 43 directs the Department of the Secretary of State to study the feasibility of and methods for providing digital access to and receipt of local absentee ballots for uniformed service voters or overseas voters from a municipality holding an election on the same date as a statewide election. The department must also update its publicly accessible website and the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act absentee ballot retrieval service portal to include information explaining that local absentee ballots are not included as a part of this service and that a uniformed service voter or overseas voter must obtain absentee ballots for local elections from the voter’s municipality of residence. The department must provide contact information for each municipality on its website.

The Secretary of State shall submit a report of the findings, including recommended legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs by December 3, 2025. The report must also include an update on the changes to the website and the portal. The committee may report out legislation related to the report in the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.