

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

LD 1188 An Act to Amend the Law Governing Facilities Approved by the State Harness Racing Commission to Sell Pari-mutuel Pools and Common Pari-mutuel Pools for Simulcast Racing

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 281 removes the statutory repeal date from the provision authorizing the State Harness Racing Commission to approve a facility for the sale of pari-mutuel pools and common pari-mutuel pools for simulcast races by a person licensed pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 8, section 271 to conduct harness horse racing with pari-mutuel betting.

The law provides that the State Harness Racing Commission may approve a facility already approved by the commission to sell pari-mutuel pools and common pari-mutuel pools for simulcast races at that facility even if the track where the races are conducted is no longer in the county where the facility is located, as long as the track location meets certain criteria. The track must be located within a county contiguous to the county where the original commercial track conducted races, may not be located within the same county as a casino and may not be located within the same municipality as an off-track betting facility or in a municipality contiguous to a municipality with an off-track betting facility.

The law also provides that the State Harness Racing Commission may provisionally approve a facility that has applied for approval from the municipal officers of the municipality in which the facility is located if that application is awaiting a decision. Provisional approval is valid only through December 31, 2025, or until such time as municipal approval is received or denied, whichever is sooner. A facility operating under provisional approval must cease all operations related to the provisional approval on the date the facility's application for municipal approval is denied or on December 31, 2025, whichever occurs first.

Public Law 2025, chapter 281 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 12, 2025.

LD 1456 An Act to Expand the Number of On-premises Retail Liquor Licenses a Liquor Manufacturer May Be Issued

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 87 expands from one to three the number of on-premises retail liquor licensees a person or persons who hold a majority ownership interest in a manufacturing licensee may hold no less than a majority ownership interest in. The on-premises retail locations may be at the manufacturing facility or other locations. If a person or persons hold a majority ownership interest in two or more manufacturing licensees that collectively manufacture at least 1,000 barrels per year, the person or persons may hold no less than a majority ownership interest in up to six on-premises retail licensees. The law limits a person or persons who hold a majority ownership interest in one or more manufacturing licensees to holding an ownership interest in no more than

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

six on-premises retail licensees. It also adds tenant breweries and tenant wineries to the provision of law requiring on-premises liquor sales to be charged sales tax at the rate of 8%.

Public Law 2025, chapter 87 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 23, 2025.

LD 1490 An Act to Allow Nonprofit Organizations to Sell Progressive Sealed Ticket Games and to Offer Partner-assisted Beano

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 424 authorizes partner-assisted beano, which is when a person playing beano plays with another person. It also defines “sealed ticket game,” which is a game of chance, and clarifies that sealed ticket games include so-called progressive pull-tab games, which are games designed by the manufacturer to include a jackpot prize that is carried over to a subsequent series of tickets or cards with the same form number in the event that jackpot prize is not won. It also changes all references to this type of game to align with the defined term and adds the definition to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17, chapter 13-A regarding beano or bingo.

Public Law 2025, chapter 424 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 25, 2025.

LD 1551 An Act to Support Maine Eating and Drinking Establishments by Allowing Vendors to Operate on the Premises of an Establishment with a Liquor License

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 189 provides that if certain conditions are met, a licensed or unlicensed vendor may operate on the premises of an establishment licensed by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations and licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services or the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to prepare, serve, sell or offer for sale food.

Public Law 2025, chapter 189 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 9, 2025.

LD 1576 An Act to Extend a One-year Lobbying Prohibition to Partisan and Nonpartisan Staff of the Legislature

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 185 extends the one-year prohibition on lobbying, which prohibits former executive branch employees from lobbying until one year after the termination of their employment in the executive branch, to include former employees of the legislative branch, beginning January 1, 2026.