

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LEGAL AFFAIRS
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

PREPARED BY:

Margaret J. Reinsch, Legislative Analyst

OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
STATE HOUSE, STATION 13 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
(207) 289-1670

HELEN T. GINDER, DIRECTOR
HAVEN WHITESIDE, DEP. DIRECTOR
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DAVID C. ELLIOTT
GRO FLATEBO
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JERI B. GAUTSCHI
CHRISTOS GIANOPOULOS
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR.



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

ROOM 101/107
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

JULIE S. JONES
JOHN B. KNOX
EDWARD POTTER
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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1987

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD AN ACT CONCERNING PRIZES AWARDED BY CHARITABLE PL 1987
1598 ORGANIZATIONS c. 190

Sponsor: MANNING, Dutremble, D., Dillenback, Holloway
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 896

SUMMARY: The original bill would raise the limit for the value of raffle prizes from \$6,500 to \$25,000.

The New Draft raises the \$6,500 limit to \$10,000. No license is required for a nonprofit group to hold such a raffle. A new license for nonprofit organizations allows them to raffle prizes worth up to \$25,000 once a year.

(Under current law, no license is required for raffles. Because no license applies, the price limit of 50¢ for chances also does not apply. The new license for the \$25,000 prize, however, means the 50¢ price limit applies to raffle tickets sold under the license. See Committee Amendment "A" to LD 1717 for exemption from the price limit on chances.)

LD AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF SAFETY DEVICES IN PL 1987
1605 PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS c. 194

Sponsor: TWITCHELL
Committee Report: New Draft/New Title of LD 696

SUMMARY: The original bill would prohibit any person from refusing to let a person with a physical disability or condition use a life jacket or other safety device which is necessitated by the condition or disability.

The New Draft applies only to public swimming pools. The definition of "public" tracks the Human Rights Act language.

LD AN ACT CONCERNING "BEANO" OR "BINGO" ON INDIAN PL 1987
1642 RESERVATIONS c. 197

Sponsor: RACINE, Murphy, E., Greenlaw, Pouliot
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 83

SUMMARY: The original bill would create an exemption from the beano prize limitations for the Penobscot Indian Nation. The law currently limits beano prizes to no more than \$400 per game, and no more than \$1,400 total per occasion or event. The original bill would set the license fee at 5% of the gross proceeds of the Penobscots' beano games.

The New Draft allows any federally-recognized Indian tribe to hold high stakes beano games on its reservation. The license fee is 5% of gross proceeds and persons operating the games, except for persons providing specific professional services, may be paid no more than minimum wage.

The New Draft allows all beano licensees to conduct one "winner-take-all" round per occasion. It also slightly raises all beano fees.

(Allocation corrected in Committee Amendment "A" to LD 1717 .
(Judiciary).)

LD AN ACT TO GIVE LOCAL ELECTION WARDENS AUTHORITY PL 1987
1643 CONCERNING GATHERING PETITION SIGNATURES c. 225

Sponsor: WEBSTER, M., Cashman, Begley, Theriault
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 1145

SUMMARY: The original bill would give the election warden at each voting place the authority to select a location at the voting place where persons may collect petition signatures.

The New Draft gives the warden that authority, but the location selected must be accessible to and observable by the voters. The warden may limit the number of people collecting signatures to one for each specific question, candidate or issue. Persons collecting signatures may not solicit a voter's signature until the voter has completed voting.

LD AN ACT CREATING A STUDY ON UNIFORM LIQUOR P&S 1897
1644 PRICING AND OTHER FACTORS IN THE OPERATION OF c. 69
 THE STATE LIQUOR COMMISSION AND THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY
 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Sponsor: JOSEPH, McHenry, Rolde, Twitchell
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 103
Amendments Adopted:
S-83 ESTES
H-403 DIAMOND

SUMMARY: The original bill would require the State Liquor Commission to lower the prices in all state liquor stores to the same level as the price in the one "discount" state liquor store in Kittery.

The New Draft directs the State liquor Commission and the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages, in conjunction with the University of Maine, to conduct a study on the feasibility and effects of uniform pricing of liquor. The study will