

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

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
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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

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

also cover all other aspects of the operations of the commission and bureau to improve efficiency, service and profits. The uniform pricing component of the study will be completed by the 2nd Regular Session; the remainder of the study will be completed by 1989. A 5-member subcommittee of the Legal Affairs Committee will oversee the study during the interim.

House Amendment "A" (H-161) (not adopted) would make a technical correction.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-83) adds an appropriation.

House Amendment "A" to Senate Amendment "A" (H-205) (not adopted) would clarify that the oversight subcommittee consists of Legal Affairs members. It also would correct the appropriation.

House Amendment "B" to Senate Amendment "A" (H-403) does what H-205 proposed, plus would require costs to be paid from the State Alcoholic Beverage Fund.

LD AN ACT RELATING TO QUALIFICATIONS FOR A HOTEL PL 1987
1645 LIQUOR LICENSE c. 232

Sponsor: BALDACCI
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 787

SUMMARY: Current law requires that to qualify for a hotel liquor license, a hotel must be equipped with a certain number of hotel rooms in addition to the rooms used by the owner and employers. The original bill would delete the requirement that the number of rooms be in addition to those used by the owner or employees.

The New Draft accomplishes the same purposes and conforms to the recodification. It also makes a technical correction in the room requirements.

LD AN ACT TO AMEND THE LIQUOR LAWS AS THEY PERTAIN PL 1987
1655 TO STATE BREWERS c. 248

Sponsor: RAND, Coles
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 852

SUMMARY: The original bill would clarify the law as it relates to breweries.

The New Draft accomplishes the same purposes as the original bill, but it is redrafted to conform with the recodification of the liquor laws. It clarifies that any sampling of malt liquor, other than that done for quality