

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AFFAIRS**

AUGUST 1991

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1991**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H - 584 or S - 222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
P&S XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
RESOLVE XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
CON RES XXX	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
EMERGENCY	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
CARRIED OVER	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
ONTP	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
LVWD	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
INDEF PP	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
VETO SUSTAINED	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
UNSIGNED	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	<i>Action incomplete when 1st session ended</i>

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

LD 1886 An Act to Repeal the Laws Allowing the State to Participate in Lotto*America

UNSIGNED

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
KETOVER	OTP-AM MAJ	H-576 MAJ REP
ERWIN	ONTP MIN	S-438 BRANNIGAN
GWADOSKY		
BUSTIN		

SUMMARY

This bill repeals the State Lottery director's authority to enter into agreements with the Multi-State Lottery Association, known as Lotto*America.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-576) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-438) makes the repeal of authority to participate in Lotto* America effective July 1, 1993 and adds a new fiscal note.

LD 1923 An Act Concerning Security Deposits

VETOED

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
O'DEA		

SUMMARY

This bill, which was enacted without reference to committee, amends the provision of law limiting the amount of money a landlord may collect as a security deposit from a tenant to 2 months' rent. The bill specifies that an advance rent payment is part of the tenant's security deposit, since it is held to secure performance of the rental agreement. Advance rent does not include rent collected for the next upcoming rental period, such as rent collected on the last day of a month to pay for the upcoming month. For the purposes of this definition, a "rental period" may not exceed one month.

See also LD 524.

LD 1956 An Act to Allow Nonprofit Organizations to Use Proceeds from Beano or Bingo for Limited Purposes

PUBLIC 590

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PRAY		H-710 CLARK H
MILLS		H-713 CHONKO
CLARK H		H-730 LAWRENCE

SUMMARY

This bill, enacted without reference to committee, allows nonprofit organizations that operate beano, bingo or lucky seven games to use the proceeds or a portion of the proceeds to pay wages to their employees. The bill sets up a mechanism for these payments to be reported to the Chief of the State Police in order to limit excessive payments.

House Amendment "A" (H-710) limits the persons who may be compensated from the revenue generated by beano, bingo or lucky seven games to those persons who are directly and essentially involved in the operation of the games. This amendment limits the amount of compensation available to 20% of the revenue generated by the games.

House Amendment "B" (H-713) adds a fiscal note.

House Amendment "C" (H-730) removes the emergency clause and preamble.

**LD 1979 An Act Providing Unified Appropriations and Allocations for
the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other
Funds, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary
to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal
Years Ending June 30, 1991, June 30, 1992 and June 30, 1993**

**PUBLIC 591
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)
CHONKO

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-467 BRANNIGAN
S-468 BRANNIGAN

SUMMARY

LD 1979 is the omnibus appropriations bill, parts of which affect liquor sales in the state. Part Z of LD 1979 enacts the language of LD 1678, which lists the location of each state liquor store currently operating and requires the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages to maintain stores in those locations, unless the law is amended. Part Z includes LD 1678, as amended by the Legal Affairs Committee, and with one additional change that anticipates the possible closing of stores in municipalities that currently have more than one state liquor store. Instead of requiring the state to maintain two stores in municipalities that currently have two, the law requires at least one store in each of those municipalities and requires at least two stores in Bangor, which currently has three stores. An earlier provision in the budget bill requires the closure of five state liquor stores.

Part PP of the bill permits state and agency liquor stores to be open on Sundays, from noon to 5 p.m., regardless of whether the municipality has voted to permit Sunday sales.

Part VV of LD 1979 repeals the law enacted earlier this year permitting wine licensees to sell low-alcohol spirits products (see LD 1833, P.L. c. 449), and enacts the same law as an emergency measure.

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