

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AFFAIRS

JULY 1993

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

JULY 1993

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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:

<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<i>ENACTMENT FAILED</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</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.

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

4693NRG

9. Required the municipal officers to specify each specific time that the clerk intended to begin processing absentee ballots; and
10. Allowed the candidate's representative to make absentee ballot inspection requests.

LD 925

An Act to Authorize Video Gaming

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

PLOURDE
CONLEY

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM MAJ
ONTP MIN

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have authorized the operation of video lottery terminals and would have established the State's share of net terminal income at 40%.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-588) would have added the following changes to the original bill.

1. Defined "gray area machines."
2. Allowed the Chief of the State Police to direct the Director of the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to disable any video lottery terminal if the licensee were guilty of criminal conduct.
3. Clarified what types of establishments could be considered as applicants for video lottery terminal licenses.
4. Clarified that the qualifications for an individual license include that the applicant had not been involved in any criminal activity.
5. Established a local review and hearing process for municipalities that must occur before the Chief of the State Police could issue a license to an applicant.
6. Required that each video lottery terminal have language describing the odds of winning the game and the dangers of compulsive gambling displayed prominently on the terminal.
7. Required that video lottery terminals not accept more than a \$10 bill at one time.
8. Clarified that gray area machines are contraband, public nuisances and subject to confiscation by any law enforcement officer.
9. Required that employees of distributors who are involved in the distribution and maintenance of video lottery terminals meet a number of the qualifications that a person eligible for a video lottery terminal license must meet.
10. Clarified that a partnership, corporation, person, individual partner, shareholder of more than 5% of a corporation or a family member of a person, individual partner or shareholder of more than 5% of a corporation may not have ownership interests in more than one distributor.
11. Required that licensing fees be paid to the Video Lottery Fund.
12. Allowed the Chief of the State Police to suspend a video lottery terminal license for no more than 180 days, and a the Chief could only suspend a license if the chief received a written statement made under oath by a law enforcement officer establishing probable cause for suspension.

13. Required that 5% of the State's percentage of proceeds from video gambling must be spent on treatment of compulsive gambling.
14. Added 3 new Class D crimes that a licensee may commit: extending credit to a person in order for the person to play a video lottery terminal; permitting a person to use a credit card as a method of payment for playing a video lottery terminal; and permitting a visibly intoxicated person to play a video lottery terminal.
15. Clarified that manufacturing, distributing, selling, operating or placing a gray area machine in the State is a Class C crime.
16. Required the Bureau of the State Police to pay the Attorney General from the Video Lottery Fund for costs of legal services.
17. Provided that start-up costs of \$500,000 be advanced to the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police.
18. Specified that a person may not operate a video lottery terminal until January 1, 1994.
19. Added a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-297) would have required the State to set aside 3/4 of 1% of the state share of net terminal income as follows:

1. One half of that amount to the Sire Stakes Fund; and
2. One half of that amount in the aggregate to:
 - A. Substance abuse treatment;
 - B. Project Graduation; and
 - C. Homeless shelters.

The amendment also would have replaced the allocations and fiscal note of the committee amendment.

**LD 930 An Act to Limit the Physical Presence of Candidates at
Voting Places on Election Day**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
LIPMAN

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have prohibited candidates from orally communicating with voters within 250 feet of the voting place or the registrar's office. The bill would not have prohibited a candidate from attending the voting place in order to cast the candidate's vote.