

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
AND
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS

MAY 1998

MEMBERS:

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Sen. Norman K. Ferguson, Jr.

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ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 1998

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

- CON RES XXX*..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*.....Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*.....House & Senate disagree; bill died
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*.....Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
- EMERGENCY*.....Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Bill failed to get majority vote
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*.....Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
- INDEF PP*.....Bill Indefinitely Postponed
- ONTP*..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
- OTP ND*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
- OTP ND/NT*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
- P&S XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
- PUBLIC XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Public Law
- RESOLVE XXX*..... Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
- UNSIGNED*.....Bill held by Governor
- VETO SUSTAINED*.....Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9, 1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs

LD 341

**An Act to Open a Discount State Liquor Store in Calais and
Conduct a Study Concerning the Opening of a Store in Fort Kent**

PUBLIC 755

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DRISCOLL CASSIDY	OTP-AM	H-934 S-636 PARADIS

LD 341 proposed to require the location of a discount state liquor store in Calais.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-934) proposed to establish a study commission to explore the feasibility and benefits of locating a discount state liquor store in Fort Kent. It would also change the title of the bill.

Senate Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "B" (S-636) proposed to change the makeup of the Joint Select Commission to Study the Opening of a Discount State Liquor Store in Fort Kent.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 755 requires the location of a discount state liquor store in Calais, Maine, and establishes the Joint Select Commission to Study the Opening of a Discount Liquor Store in Fort Kent.

LD 708

**An Act to Protect Small, Independent Businesses Not Meeting
Minimum Lottery Sales Requirements**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FULLER KILKELLY	ONTP	

LD 708 proposed to require that a state lottery agent be notified immediately when the Director of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations recommends that the agent's license be suspended or revoked and that the agent be given an opportunity to file a statement of opposition to the recommendation. The bill also proposed to allow the State Lottery Commission to consider the impact that suspension or revocation of the license would have within the geographic area served, specify the procedure for appealing the commission's decision and authorize the commissioner to adopt rules necessary to implement the provision governing suspension and revocation of licenses.