

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

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Sen. Richard J. Carey
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.

Video gaming terminal manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and operators and video gaming terminals would be licensed by the Chief of the State Police. Local approval is required for a license to operate video gaming terminals. A maximum of five terminals would be allowed per licensee. Terminals would be connected to an on-line computer system operated and monitored by the Director of the State Lottery.

Net terminal income, which is income after payback to players, is divided as follows: 33-1/3 percent to the State for payment of administrative expenses, municipal revenue sharing, compulsive gambling treatment and General Fund revenue; 33-1/3 percent to the distributor; 33-1/3 percent to the licensee.

LD 1828 **An Act to Preserve Financial Integrity of the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations** **ONTP**

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAUD | | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|

LD 1828 proposed to change the structure of the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations. It would eliminate the State Liquor Commission and place the powers of the commission regarding administration of state liquor stores and the purchase and sale of spirits under the authority of the Bureau. An Alcoholic Beverages Advisory Board would be established by this bill.

State liquor stores would be required to maintain a minimum inventory of 4,000 bottles of liquor plus three weeks inventory. The bill would require relocation of the Kittery discount store and placement of megabucks machines in all state liquor stores. The Bureau would be required to establish special price allowance programs that would permit them to match vendor discounts and increase revenue generated by sales promotions.

LD 1846 **An Act to Prohibit the Opening of Liquor Stores on the Maine Turnpike** **DIED ON ADJOURNMENT**

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> DONNELLY | | <u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|

LD 1846 proposed to repeal the provision authorizing the establishment of two discount liquor stores at Exit 3 of the Maine Turnpike and to enact law prohibiting the location or operation of a liquor store on the Maine Turnpike.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-830) made technical corrections to the emergency preamble and added a retroactivity clause and a fiscal note to the bill.