

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

JULY 2000

Staff:

*Danielle D. Fox, Legislative Analyst
Christopher Spruce, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

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Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
July 2000

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. 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 and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the 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
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEF PP..... Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONT P..... 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 August 11, 2000.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAXL M	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-1006

LD 2571 proposed to create a new liquor license for the purpose of promoting Maine brewery and winery products. Under this proposed license, an incorporated civic organization may obtain up to 2 Maine brewery and winery products promotional licenses per year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1006) proposed to replace the original bill. It proposed to repeal the special taste-testing festival license in current law and replace it with one that would be applied for jointly by Maine small breweries and wineries. The special taste-testing festival license would be for the purpose of promoting Maine small breweries and wineries. The license fee per brewery or winery would be \$20.

The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 677 creates a special taste-testing festival license for the purposes of promoting Maine brewery and winery products. The license is applied for jointly by breweries and wineries. The license fee for each brewery or winery participating in the festival is \$20. A brewery or winery may participate in one taste-testing festival annually. A brewery or winery may not offer samples in return for money but the festival may charge an admission fee. A person attending the festival is limited to 12, four-ounce samples or other amounts not to exceed 48 ounces. Persons under the age of 21 are not permitted at the festival unless accompanied by an adult or legal guardian.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 2576 proposed to amend certain key dates under the election laws by making them uniformly March 15th. The bill proposed to change the deadline for filing paperwork due under the Maine Clean Election Act from March 16th to March 15th beginning in calendar year 2001. The bill also proposed to allow the Secretary of State to accept primary petition filings until 5:00 p.m. on March 16th for election year 2000 only.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-600) proposed to change the deadline for filing paperwork due under the Maine Clean Election Act from June 2nd to June 1st, beginning in calendar year 2001. The amendment would have allowed the Secretary of State to accept nonparty nomination petition filings until 5 p.m. on June 2nd for election year 2000 only.