

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
122nd Legislature*

*First Regular Session and  
First Special Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

*August 2005*

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Maine State Legislature

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122nd Legislature
First Regular Session and First Special Session

Summary of Legislation Considered by the Joint Standing Committees
August 2005

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 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. A subject index for each committee is included immediately before the bill summaries for that committee, and a numerical index by LD number is included 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:

- CARRIED OVER ..... Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session
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
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 29, 2005; and for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session is September 17, 2005.

*Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

LD 1598

**An Act To Prevent Campaigning at Polling Places**

ONTP

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

LD 1598 proposed to limit a candidate's activities at polling places to voting.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-226)** proposed to specify that a candidate, a candidate's spouse or the surrogate of a candidate may not communicate in a repetitive or systematic way within 100 feet of the voting place with voters entering the voting place.

**LD 1599**

**An Act Regarding the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices**

**PUBLIC 295  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GAGNON PATRICK	OTP-AM	S-205

LD 1599 proposed that a nominee to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices appointed by the Governor to fill a vacancy created by an expired term would be subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over legal affairs and to confirmation by the Legislature.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-205)** proposed to clarify the bill to ensure that all nominees to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices would be subject to review by the Legislature whether the vacancy was created during an unexpired term or at the expiration of a term.

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2005, chapter 295 provides that a nominee to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices appointed by the Governor to fill a vacancy is subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over legal affairs and to confirmation by the Legislature.

Public Law 2005, chapter 295 was enacted as an emergency measure and took effect June 2, 2005.

LD 1600

**Resolve, To Establish a Commission To Evaluate Criteria for Siting Agency Liquor Stores**

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GAGNON PATRICK	OTP-AM	S-206

LD 1600 establishes the Commission to Evaluate the Criteria for Siting Agency Liquor Stores. Committee Amendment "A" (S-206) incorporates a fiscal note.