

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature coming from the

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

July 2007

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STATE OF MAINE

123RD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

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
ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP-ND.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PASSED.....	Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 that the effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

LD 203 An Act Concerning Student Voter Registration

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

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

This bill amends a provision of election law that deals with the determination of residency for uniformed service voters, students, institutionalized patients and Indians. It strikes a provision in current law that prohibits construing the provision to prevent a student at an institution of learning from qualifying as a voter in that municipality while attending school. The bill adds language that prohibits a student from claiming residency for voting purposes in the municipality where the student resides if the student lives in housing owned by an institution of learning while attending that institution unless the student lived in the municipality prior to attending that institution.

LD 287 An Act To Limit Campaigning at Polling Places

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVAGE D	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

This bill amends the section of law that governs political activities on election day. That law prohibits the influence or attempt to influence a person's decision regarding a candidate or question on the ballot that day. This section of law provides that candidates on the ballot may be present within the voting place as long as there is no attempt to influence a vote and the candidate does not state the name of the office being sought or asking for a person's vote. This bill adds a new section to that law. It would limit the number of campaign workers allowed at an entrance to a voting place to only the candidate or one representative from the candidate's campaign.

**LD 300 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine
To Restrict the Voting Privileges of Certain Incarcerated Felons**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HANLEY S	ONTP	

This Resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Maine that would revoke the right of a person, while incarcerated in a correctional facility of the Department of Corrections, who is convicted of murder or a Class A or Class B crime to vote.

If placed on the ballot, the question would read:

"Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to revoke the right of a convicted felon incarcerated in a Department of Corrections facility to vote?"