

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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* Representative Stacey Fitts replaced former Representative Abigail Holman on the Legal and Veterans' Affairs Committee.

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 890

An Act To Allow the Awarding of Prize Money from Gambling Machines Run by Nonprofit Organizations

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

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

This bill provides that nonprofit organizations eligible for a license to conduct beano are eligible for a license to operate up to 5 slot machines per nonprofit organization location. A non-profit would be required to get municipal approval before the gambling control board could issue a slot machine operator license. Slot machines operated by the non-profits would be required to be connected to the central site monitoring system that is currently in place to monitor slot machines operated at the slot machine facility in Bangor. That system is enabled to monitor all activities and to shut down machines if necessary.

Under this bill, the initial license fee for an operator of a non-profit slot machine license is \$1000 and the annual renewal fee is \$250.

The bill provides for the distribution of slot machine revenue as follows:

1. One percent of gross slot machine income to the General Fund for administrative costs of the Gambling Control Board;
2. Twenty-four percent of net slot machine income to the General Fund for administrative costs of the Gambling Control Board and \$200,000 for the Citizen Trade Policy Commission;
3. One percent of net slot machine income for gambling addiction services; and
4. Ten percent of net slot machine income directly to the municipality where the slot machines are located.

The bill also provides for revenue sharing agreement with the municipality that could provide 10% of the net slot machine income to the municipality.

LD 891

An Act To Allow and Regulate Additional Pari-mutuel Wagering at Commercial Tracks

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK BRYANT B	ONTP	

This bill would require the Harness Racing Commission to adopt major substantive rules that would provide for the acceptance of wagers on live, simulcast or replayed horse races using technology beneficial to the industry. The rules would be required to provide for, at a minimum, telephone wagering. Current law provides that wagering is conducted at the track and prohibits telephone wagering.

This bill also provides that a commercial track may be licensed to sell lucky seven or similar sealed tickets. Twenty-five percent of the gross profit from the sale of these tickets would be forwarded to the commission to benefit the Animal Welfare Fund. This money would be targeted for the welfare of equines.