

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 914 An Act To Extend the Hours for Sale and Delivery of Alcohol

ONTP

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

This bill amends the general provisions of the laws governing the sale of alcoholic beverages. It extends the hours of sale by allowing liquor licensees to sell or deliver liquor from 6 a.m. on any day until 3 a.m. of the following day. Current law allows liquor licensees to sell or deliver liquor from 6 a.m. on any day until 1 a.m. of the following day.

LD 915 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Bingo

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

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

This bill increases the stakes in a winner-take-all round of bingo from \$500 to \$750. The bill also increases the value of a single prize in a game of bingo from \$1,400 to \$2,000. The bill also allows an organization licensed to operate beano or bingo games to use part of the proceeds to defray the expense of advertising.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-207)

This amendment, which was not adopted, reduces the prize increase proposed by the bill for a beano event. The amendment establishes the total prize limit at \$1,600. The amendment also clarifies the provision that permits a beano or bingo licensee to use proceeds from the game to defray the cost of advertising to specify that it is advertising of licensed beano or bingo games.

LD 994 An Act To Make Minor Changes to the Gambling Control Board Laws

ONTP

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

This bill creates a definition of promotional credit with regard to the laws governing slot machines at commercial tracks. Under this bill, a promotional credit means a non-cashable incentive provided by the operator to participants in a rewards program offered by the operator and approved by the Gambling Control Board. The definition further states that promotional credits and wagers as a result of those credits have no value for the purposes of calculating gross or net slot machine income.

This bill also adds to the list of rules required to be adopted by the board, to include marketing programs, promotional credits and temporary licensees subject to a \$100 fee. These rules are routine technical as provided currently in law.