

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

about legislative ethics violations during the past 10 years. The resolve requires the report to be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs by February 15, 2008.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 81 directs the executive director of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to provide historical data regarding complaints received about legislative ethics violations during the past 10 years. The resolve requires the report to be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs by February 15, 2008.

LD 1023 An Act To Designate Special Funds To Help Support Maine Military Families

ONTP

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

This bill requires the Lottery Commission, in consultation with Bureau of Veterans Services within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to develop and initiate a lottery game to raise money for the Veterans' Cash Fund that is established by this bill. The bill provides the fund is held separately from other accounts and that its sole purpose is to provide services and benefits to veterans in a manner determined by Bureau of Veterans Services.

LD 1049 An Act To Require Wholesale Distributors of Alcoholic Beverages To Report the Quantity of Liquor Sold to Individual Licensees

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WEBSTER EDMONDS	ONTP	

This bill requires the wholesale distributor of spirits to issue quarterly reports to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations showing the quantity of spirits and fortified wine sold and distributed to each establishment licensed by the State to sell spirits and fortified wine for off-premises consumption in the State. It also requires wholesale distributors of malt liquor, wine and fortified wine to issue quarterly reports to the Department of Public Safety, Division of Liquor Licensing and Compliance showing the quantity of malt liquor, wine and fortified wine sold and distributed to individual off-premises licensees.

LD 1050 An Act To Prohibit Payment for the Gathering of Petition Signatures

ONTP

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

This bill amends the laws that govern the circulation of petitions for citizen initiatives and people's veto. The bill prohibits a citizen petition or people's veto applicant from paying or offering to pay compensation to petition circulators.