

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

This bill requires that:

1. A candidate for Governor must raise at least \$35,000 in seed money contributions to qualify as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate;
2. A candidate for the state Senate must raise at least \$1,000 in seed money contributions to qualify as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate; and
3. A candidate for the state House of Representatives must raise at least \$350 in seed money contributions to qualify as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate.

This bill was considered with a larger comprehensive bill that addressed campaign finance and the Maine Clean Election Act, LD 1854.

LD 1688 An Act To Allow the Use of Credit Cards To Purchase Wine, Beer and Spirits from Distributors

ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT

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

This bill amends the current law that requires shipments of alcoholic beverages to be paid for in full, in cash at the time of delivery. This law applies to the state's spirits wholesaler who sells to state agency stores, state agency stores who are reselling agents and supply bars and restaurants and beer and wine wholesalers who supply on-premises and off-premises licensees.

This bill, as it amends current law, would provide that the spirits wholesaler may accept payment by credit card and that reselling agents and beer/wine wholesalers may only accept payment in the form of cash, check, electronic funds transfer or credit card.

LD 1704 An Act To Make Changes in the Laws Regarding Raffles

PUBLIC 378

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRYANT M	OTP-AM	H-457

Current law permits raffles to be sold during the one hour period before a beano game. This bill extends that timeframe so that raffles may be sold for one hour after the game begins (thus, during beano play). It also provides that a raffle for a prize valued at greater than \$10,000 but less than \$75,000 may be divided into multiple drawings not to go beyond 1 year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-457)

This amendment strikes a provision in the bill that permits raffle tickets to be sold up to one hour after a beano game as an exception to current law. This amendment specifies that multiple drawing raffles are progressive raffles that are divided into a maximum of 12 drawings with previous entries rolled into subsequent drawings.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 378 provides for multiple drawing raffles and specifies that they are progressive raffles that are divided into a maximum of 12 drawings with previous entries rolled into subsequent drawings.