

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

MEMBERS:

SEN. LISA T. MARRACHE, CHAIR
SEN. BRUCE S. BRYANT
SEN. DEBRA D. PLOWMAN

REP. JOHN L. PATRICK, CHAIR
REP. JOHN L. TUTTLE, JR.
REP. PATRICIA A. BLANCHETTE
REP. PAMELA JABAR TRINWARD
REP. LANCE WEDDELL
REP. JOAN M. NASS
REP. GARY W. MOORE
REP. WRIGHT H. PINKHAM, SR.
REP. BONNIE S. GOULD
REP. STACEY FITTS*

STAFF:

DANIELLE D. FOX, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

* 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 is a Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs bill pursuant to joint order. It amends the laws governing the central voter registration system by consolidating 2 reports due annually in March to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over voter registration. It amends the fee system for the purchase of electronic records from the central voter registration system by reducing the cost and establishing new fees more in line with what other states charge for such records. Finally, in recognition of the delayed implementation of the central voter registration system, the bill extends the date of a sunset provision and allows for limited exceptions to the public records law by allowing some electronic data to be confidential.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 397 amends the laws governing the central voter registration system by consolidating 2 reports due annually in March to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over voter registration. It amends the fee system for the purchase of electronic records from the central voter registration system by reducing the cost and establishing new fees more in line with what other states charge for such records. Finally, in recognition of the delayed implementation of the central voter registration system, chapter 397 extends the date of a sunset provision and allows for limited exceptions to the public records law by allowing some electronic data to be confidential.

This bill was enacted as an emergency measure, effective June 21, 2007.

LD 1924 **An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Committee To Review the Taxation of Slot Machine Revenues, Created by Executive Order 33 Fiscal Year 2006-07** **CARRIED OVER**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| EDMONDS | | |

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to implement the recommendations of the Committee to Review the Taxation of Slot Machine Revenues, created by Executive Order 33 Fiscal Year 2006-07.

LD 1924 was carried over pursuant to Joint Order, HP 1369.

LD 1928 **An Act To Extend from 4 to 6 Terms the Limits on Legislative Terms** **PUBLIC 465**

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

This bill extends the limitation on legislative terms from 4 to 6. It would not apply to members of the Legislature who are currently serving a 4th consecutive term as a Senator or as a member of the House of Representatives. This bill requires that the proposed alteration in the law governing term limits be submitted to the voters in November 2007 for approval.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 465 submits to the voters in November 2007, a proposal to extend legislative terms from 4 to 6. This measure would not apply to members of the Legislature who are currently serving a 4th consecutive term as a Senator or as a member of the House of Representatives.