

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
124TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 124th Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND
VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

July 2009

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STATE OF MAINE

124TH 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 124th Maine Legislature.

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:

CARRIED OVER.....	Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
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; bill died
ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
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

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature is September 12, 2009. 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 526 An Act To Clarify the Beano and Bingo Laws as They Apply to Federally Recognized Indian Tribes

PUBLIC 347

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CLEARY JACKSON	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-442

This bill amends the laws dealing with high-stakes beano and high-stakes bingo by changing the limitation controlling where such games may be conducted from Indian Territory to reservation or trust lands.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-442)

This amendment replaces the bill. It provides that the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians may conduct high-stakes beano on a particular parcel of land in Houlton. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 347 provides that the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians may conduct high-stakes beano on a particular parcel of land in Houlton.

LD 530 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Reduce the Number of Signatures Required and Prohibit Payment for Signatures in the Citizen's Initiative Process

ONTP

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

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to reduce the number of required signatures on a direct initiative petition from 10% to 3% of the total vote cast in the previous gubernatorial election. In addition, this resolution prohibits circulators of direct initiative petitions from receiving payment or compensation for the collection of signatures.

LD 531 Resolve, To Allow Jenny Powell To Sue the State

ONTP

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

This resolve authorizes Jenny Powell to bring a civil action against the Department of Health and Human Services for damages in connection with actions taken by the Department of Health and Human Services.