

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

July 2009

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# STATE OF MAINE

124<sup>TH</sup> 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 124<sup>th</sup> 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:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i> .....	<i>Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i> .....	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i> .....	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i> .....	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i> .....	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i> .....	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i> .....	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i> .....	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i> .....	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed; bill died</i>
<i>ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report)</i> .....	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i> .....	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> .....	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> 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***

This amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

**LD 1249    An Act To Raise the Campaign Contribution Limit**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARVELL MILLS P	ONTP	

This bill raises the contribution limit to \$1,000 for a gubernatorial candidate and other candidates.

**LD 1250    An Act To Amend the Maine Clean Election Act Relating to Seed Money**

**ONTP**

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

This bill increases the seed money contribution a participating candidate may receive from \$100 to \$250 per individual. It also increases the amount of seed money that can be raised by a candidate for the State Senate from \$1,500 to \$3,000 and from \$500 to \$1,000 for a candidate for the State House of Representatives. The bill also directs the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to amend its rules to decrease by \$1,500 the amount of seed money a candidate for the State Senate may receive as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate and to decrease by \$500 the amount of seed money a candidate for the State House of Representatives may receive as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate.

**LD 1308    An Act To Allow the Importation of Wine into the State for Individuals through Specific Ports of Entry**

**ACCEPTED ONTP  
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WEBSTER BARTLETT	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

This bill establishes a license to allow for the direct shipment of wine to registered shipment outlets. The license allows certain in-state and out-of-state wineries to ship up to 12 cases of wine annually to such registered outlets for pick-up by consumers who are 21 years of age or older. The registered shipment outlet must be shown proof of age in order to release a delivery to a consumer. Wine shipments must be conspicuously labeled that they contain alcohol and may be delivered only to a person 21 years of age or older. The bill requires that a direct shipper is required to pay all applicable taxes, including excise and premium taxes on wine. The bill establishes reporting requirements for direct shippers and lists specific penalties for specific violations of laws governing the direct shipment of wine.