

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

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

April 2010

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# STATE OF MAINE

124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND 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 Second 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 HOUSES</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 Second Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Monday, July 12, 2010. 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*

### Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009 chapter 611 requires the Secretary of State to provide space on each petition page intended for signatures for a direct initiative or a people's veto for the inclusion of a unique identifying number to accompany the name of the circulator on that petition. This law requires the municipal clerk or registrar to make a copy of a petition for a direct initiative or people's veto that the clerk or registrar suspects was submitted in violation of petition requirements. It creates a registration requirement for petition organizations that are compensated to organize, supervise or manage the circulation of petitions for a direct initiative or people's veto. This law also extends the amount of time that a person has to challenge the decision of the Secretary of State to reject or certify petitions from five to 10 days and reduces the number of days the Superior Court has to rule on the challenge from 45 to 40 days. Chapter 611 makes a correction to the statute to comply with a 1998 Maine Supreme Judicial Court decision that denies the right of de novo trial to a person challenging the decision of the Secretary of State to reject or certify petitions. This law also makes the statute consistent with the Constitution of Maine, which allows for a total of 100 days for a final decision on the certification of a petition for a direct initiative or a people's veto.

### LD 1731      **An Act To Modernize the Bingo Laws**

**PUBLIC 505**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL W SULLIVAN	OTP-AM	H-646

This bill authorizes the use of a lucky seven dispenser by a licensed Indian tribe in connection with the sale of lucky seven tickets or raffle tickets. It also defines "lucky seven dispenser." In addition it specifies that rules pertaining to beano equipment do not apply to high-stakes beano. The bill also repeals the provision of law that allows an organization to operate high-stakes beano games on 27 weekends per year.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-646)**

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment provides that an Indian tribe licensed to conduct high-stakes beano and licensed to sell lucky seven or other similar tickets may use a dispenser to sell the tickets. The amendment specifies that the tickets dispensed must provide the element of chance, not the dispenser. The amendment provides that the Chief of the State Police may adopt routine technical rules to facilitate the use of dispensers. The amendment also changes the title of the bill and adds an appropriations and allocations section.

### Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 505 provides that an Indian tribe licensed to conduct high-stakes beano and licensed to sell lucky seven or other similar tickets may use a dispenser to sell the tickets. The law specifies that the tickets dispensed must provide the element of chance, not the dispenser. Chapter 505 provides that the Chief of the State Police may adopt routine technical rules to facilitate the use of dispensers.

### **LD 1759      Resolve, To Transfer the Ownership of the Fort Kent Armory from the Military Bureau to the University of Maine at Fort Kent**

**RESOLVE 212**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN J L JACKSON	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-831 TRINWARD

## *Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs*

This resolve transfers the ownership of the Fort Kent Armory to the University of Maine at Fort Kent as permitted by statute for the sum of \$1.

### **House Amendment "A" (H-831)**

This amendment replaces the resolve. It authorizes the transfer of ownership of the Fort Kent Armory to the University of Maine at Fort Kent for \$150,000 by means of a quitclaim deed. It requires the funds to be deposited in an Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to be used to meet the outstanding Maine Governmental Facilities Authority obligations associated with prior improvements to the Fort Kent Armory as a first priority. It also provides that any balance remaining after meeting the outstanding obligations associated with the armory, as determined by the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services, must be used for maintenance and repair costs at National Guard armories. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Resolves 2009, chapter 212 authorizes the transfer of ownership of the Fort Kent Armory to the University of Maine at Fort Kent for \$150,000 by means of a quitclaim deed. It requires the funds to be deposited in an Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to be used to meet the outstanding Maine Governmental Facilities Authority obligations associated with prior improvements to the Fort Kent Armory as a first priority. It also provides that any balance remaining after meeting the outstanding obligations associated with the armory, as determined by the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services, must be used for maintenance and repair costs at National Guard armories.

### **LD 1770     An Act To Extend the Temporary Reduction in High-stakes Beano License Fees**

**PUBLIC 534  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL W SULLIVAN	OTP-AM	H-671

Current law provides that the annual license fee for a high-stakes beano license is \$50,000, except that the fee due in 2008 and 2009 was \$25,000. This bill extends the reduction in license fees to 2010 and 2011, and requires that the Chief of the State Police, with input from those federally recognized Indian tribes issued licenses for high-stakes beano, submit a report by February 1, 2011 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over legal and veterans affairs regarding enforcement and administrative functions conducted with regard to high-stakes beano, including recommendations regarding fees for high-stakes beano licenses.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-671)**

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

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2009, chapter 534 extends the reduction in license fees for high stakes beano from \$50,000 to \$25,000 through 2011. It requires that the Chief of the State Police, with input from those federally recognized Indian tribes issued licenses for high-stakes beano, submit a report by February 1, 2011 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over legal and veterans affairs regarding enforcement and administrative functions conducted with regard to high-stakes beano, including recommendations regarding fees for high-stakes beano licenses.

Public Law 2009, chapter 534 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 22, 2010.