

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

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

July 2011

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STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND
ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 125th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD 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 LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

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; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCY..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX..... chapter # of enacted public Law
RESOLVE XXX..... chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature is September 28, 2011. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

deposited in the General Fund.

LD 649 An Act To Establish a Special Food and Beverage Industry Taste-testing Event License

**PUBLIC 259
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FITTS PLOWMAN	OTP-AM	H-393

This bill amends existing law regarding special taste-testing festivals to include wine manufacturers. It specifies that a festival may be held in conjunction with a trade show, food festival or tourism exposition. It further specifies that a representative of a beer or wine manufacturer or wholesaler is authorized to pour samples at the taste-testing festival.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-393)

This amendment replaces the bill except for the emergency preamble and emergency clause. The amendment establishes a special food and beverage industry taste-testing event license for manufacturers and wholesalers of alcoholic beverages who are participants in an event designed to promote the food and beverage or hospitality industry. Under current law, only a caterer or other person licensed to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption may sell or serve samples of alcoholic beverages at such an event. This license permits a manufacturer, wholesaler or a manufacturer's sales representatives to serve alcoholic beverages. The amendment also provides a specific exception that permits a caterer to serve wine that is not registered with the State at a special food and beverage industry taste-testing event in order to promote that wine for distribution and sale in the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 259 establishes a special food and beverage industry taste-testing event license for manufacturers and wholesalers of alcoholic beverages who are participants in an event designed to promote the food and beverage or hospitality industry. Under existing law, only a caterer or other person licensed to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption may sell or serve samples of alcoholic beverages at such an event. This license permits a manufacturer, wholesaler or a manufacturer's sales representatives to serve alcoholic beverages. The law also provides a specific exception that permits a caterer to serve wine that is not registered with the State at a special food and beverage industry taste-testing event in order to promote that wine for distribution and sale in the State.

Public Law 2011, chapter 259 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 8, 2011.

LD 657 An Act To Permit Disposal of Abandoned Manufactured Housing

**PUBLIC 127
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CROCKETT HASTINGS	OTP-AM	H-183

This bill provides landlords a process for the disposal of abandoned manufactured housing. This process is based on the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 33, section 1954, former subsection 2, which governed the disposal of tangible property in general by a landlord, until it was repealed by the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Committee Amendment "A" (H-183)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment provides mobile home park owners and operators a process for the disposal of abandoned manufactured housing. For purposes of the amendment, "manufactured housing" is defined to include a mobile home or a modular home on leased land. This process is based on the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 14, section 6013, which were enacted in Public Law 2009, chapter 566 by the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature and relate to the disposal of personal property abandoned by a tenant. Public Law 2009, chapter 566 also inadvertently repealed the process governing the disposal of manufactured housing by a landlord. The amendment also adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 127 provides mobile home park owners and operators a process for the disposal of abandoned manufactured housing. This process is based on the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 14, section 6013, which were enacted in Public Law 2009, chapter 566 by the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature and relate to the disposal of personal property abandoned by a tenant. For purposes of the law, "manufactured housing" is defined to include a mobile home or a modular home on leased land.

Public Law 2011, chapter 127 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 23, 2011.

LD 659 An Act To Repeal the Maine Clean Election Laws

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

This bill repeals the Maine Clean Election Act.

LD 663 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Corporate Political Donations

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

This bill provides a tax on corporate campaign contributions and electioneering communications.