

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
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

July 2013

STAFF:

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

MEMBERS:

SEN. JOHN L. TUTTLE, JR., CHAIR
SEN. JOHN L. PATRICK
SEN. GARRETT PAUL MASON

REP. LOUIS J. LUCHINI, CHAIR
REP. DIANE RUSSELL
REP. THOMAS R. W. LONGSTAFF
REP. LORI FOWLE
REP. ROBERT J. SAUCIER
REP. JOHN C. SCHNECK
REP. MICHAEL G. BEAULIEU
REP. DAVID D. JOHNSON
REP. JEFFREY ALLEN GIFFORD
REP. JONATHAN L. KINNEY
REP. WAYNE T. MITCHELL

STATE OF MAINE

126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 126th 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 126th Legislature is October 9, 2013. 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

Committee Amendment "A" (H-266)

This amendment replaces the bill and is the majority report of the committee. It establishes a limited dual beano license that permits two organizations eligible to conduct beano to conduct a game at the same location on the same date. It provides that an organization that operates beano under a limited dual beano license may only do so up to two times per year. Organizations that apply for a limited dual beano license must identify a lead applicant who acknowledges responsibility for any violation of laws or rules during the game. The limited dual beano license does not authorize the sale of sealed tickets.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 305 establishes a limited dual beano license that permits two organizations eligible to conduct beano to conduct a game at the same location on the same date. It provides that an organization that operates beano under a limited dual beano license may only do so up to two times per year. Organizations that apply for a limited dual beano license must identify a lead applicant who acknowledges responsibility for any violation of laws or rules during the game. The limited dual beano license does not authorize the sale of sealed tickets.

LD 156 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine CARRIED OVER
Concerning Early Voting and Voting by Absentee Ballot

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SHAW LANGLEY | OTP-AM ONTP | |

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require the Legislature to authorize a process to allow a qualified voter to vote at a polling place in or outside of the city, town or plantation where that voter's residence has been established during a period immediately preceding an election. It also allows for voting by absentee ballot by citizens for reasons deemed sufficient without requiring in the Constitution of Maine that the citizens be absent or physically incapacitated.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-127)

This amendment eliminates the language in the resolution that requires the Legislature to authorize early voting by voters within or outside their places of residence and instead directs the Legislature to authorize a process of early voting that allows voting to occur in the same manner as on election day during a period immediately preceding an election.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 169 An Act To Provide Revenue to Veterans' Organizations and the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System Care Fund from Table Game Revenue PUBLIC 128 EMERGENCY

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PATRICK LONGSTAFF | OTP-AM | S-57 |

Current law requires 2% of the net table game income generated at a casino with a commercial track to be held by the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board for distribution to charitable nonprofits eligible to

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

conduct beano or games of chance. This bill changes that distribution, instead directing the income to the Coordinated Veterans Assistance Grant Fund, which is established in the bill to give grants to assist veterans' service organizations and to make an annual deposit to the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System Care Fund.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-57)

Current law requires 2% of the net table game income generated at a casino in Bangor to be held by the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board for distribution to charitable nonprofit organizations eligible to conduct beano games and games of chance. This amendment provides that distribution of the table game income will go to the Coordinated Veterans Assistance Fund, which is established to assist veterans' service organizations with transportation of veterans to medical appointments and outreach to homeless veterans and to provide funding for veteran service officers at the Veterans Administration Hospital at Togus, for flags for veterans graves and for the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System Care Fund.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 128 repealed a provision of law governing the use of revenues from table games at one of the two licensed casinos in the State where 2% of the net table game income generated at a casino in Bangor was to be held by the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board for distribution to charitable nonprofit organizations eligible to conduct beano games and games of chance. Chapter 128 provides that distribution of the table game income will go to the Coordinated Veterans Assistance Fund, which is established to assist veterans' service organizations with transportation of veterans to medical appointments and outreach to homeless veterans and to provide funding for veteran service officers at the Veterans Administration Hospital at Togus, for flags for veterans graves and for the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System Care Fund.

Public Law 2013, chapter 128 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 24, 2013.

LD 174 An Act To Prohibit the Placement of Political Signs within 25 Feet of a Cemetery or Burial Site ONTP

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

This bill prohibits the placement of political signs within 25 feet of a known burial site or of the boundaries of an established cemetery.

LD 184 An Act To Enhance Transparency in Government by Implementing a Waiting Period for Legislators before They May Register as Lobbyists PUBLIC 129

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CROCKETT TUTTLE | OTP-AM | H-115 |

This bill prohibits a person who served as a Legislator from lobbying until one year after that person's term as a Legislator ends. It applies to a Legislator who serves in the 126th Legislature or in a later legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-115)

This amendment replaces the bill, which amended the statute governing lobbyist disclosure procedures to prohibit a former Legislator from engaging in lobbying for one year after the Legislator's term ends.

This amendment amends the provisions of law that govern legislative ethics to prohibit a former Legislator from engaging in activities that would require registration as a lobbyist or lobbyist associate until one year after that