

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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

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STATE OF MAINE

126TH LEGISLATURE

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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

- 6. If a tenant and the landlord get different results for tests, the landlord may hire a professional and disclose the result of the testing performed by the professional. The landlord may also choose to accept the tenant's results.
- 7. Tenants explicitly have the right to test for radon.
- 8. Results of testing by a landlord must be reported to the Department of Health and Human Services within 30 days.

LD 329 An Act To Reduce the Licensing Fee for Certain Tournament Games

PUBLIC 306

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK RUSSELL	OTP-AM ONTP	S-155

This bill reduces the license fees for tournament games that do not exceed 100 players.

This bill also eliminates the ability of an organization licensed to hold a tournament game to charge a player an addition to the entry fee to defray the cost of the license.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-155)

This amendment increases the fees for tournament game licenses that are proposed by the bill. The license fees proposed in the amendment are a reduction from what is required in current law. The bill removes the provision of current law that provides that a tournament game licensee may charge an amount higher than the maximum entry fee to defray the cost of licensure. The amendment retains this provision of law.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 306 reduces the fee paid by organizations licensed to conduct tournament games. A per tournament license fee is reduced from \$150 to \$75 under this law. A monthly licensee fee is reduced from \$250 to \$200. The fee for an annual license under chapter 306 is reduced from \$3,000 to \$1,500. Finally, chapter 306 repeals a provision in the tournament games law that previously allowed a licensee to apply an extra charge to a tournament game entry fee to defray the cost of the license.

LD 333 An Act To Amend the Provision of Law That Requires the Trade Name or Brand of Malt Liquor To Be Displayed in Full Sight of a Customer on a Faucet, Spigot or Dispensing Apparatus

PUBLIC 165

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SCHNECK	OTP-AM	H-120

This bill repeals the requirement that the trade name or brand of malt liquor served from a faucet, spigot or dispensing apparatus be displayed in full sight of a customer on the faucet, spigot or dispensing apparatus.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-120)

This amendment replaces the bill. Current law requires that an on-premises liquor licensee may not serve malt liquor from a tap unless the trade name or brand is clearly labeled on the tap handle. The amendment provides an alternative to current law by providing that licensees who serve malt liquor from a tap may inform consumers about which product is being dispensed by displaying a list of all available malt liquors.

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 165 amends the law which requires that an on-premises liquor licensee may not serve malt liquor from a tap unless the trade name or brand is clearly labeled on the tap handle. Chapter 165 establishes an alternative by providing that licensees who serve malt liquor from a tap may inform consumers about which product is being dispensed by displaying a list of all available malt liquors.

LD 343 Resolve, Regarding the Transfer of Responsibility for Veterans' Cemetery Maintenance ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COTTA BURNS	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Director of the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to study the feasibility of transferring the responsibility of maintaining veterans' cemeteries to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Division of Parks and Public Lands.

LD 344 An Act To Amend the Licensing Requirements for Beano Halls Leased by Veterans' Organizations ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHAW PLUMMER	ONTP	

This bill exempts a veterans' organization that is licensed to conduct beano or bingo games from the requirement to get a beano hall permit if that veterans' organization wishes to lease its facility as a beano hall to an organization licensed to conduct beano or bingo games.

LD 349 An Act To Strengthen Maine's Ethics Laws and Improve Public Access to Information ONTP

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to strengthen Maine's laws governing governmental ethics and to increase transparency and fairness by improving access by the public to information.

**LD 350 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Gambling PUBLIC 212
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE BEAULIEU	OTP-AM	S-142