

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

- 5. It allows for temporary authorization to allow employees to work in positions for which a license is required during the licensing process.
- 6. It changes the laws governing when the Gambling Control Board within the Department of Public Safety may refuse to grant a license to a person based on a previous adverse action taken against that person.
- 7. It removes the requirement that all key executives be citizens or permanent residents of the United States.
- 8. It removes the requirement that slot machines have nonresettable meters.
- 9. It provides that the minimum average daily aggregate payback percentage for slot machines be calculated quarterly rather than weekly.

Public Law 2013, chapter 212 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 10, 2013.

LD 408 An Act To Require a Copy of Communications To Be Filed with Independent Expenditure Reports ONTP

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

This bill amends the law governing reports required for independent expenditures made in support of or opposition to a candidate. The bill requires that a copy of the communication be included with the independent expenditure report.

LD 410 An Act To Revise the Maine Clean Election Act Regarding Participation in Political Action Committees ACCEPTED MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHENETTE VALENTINO	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill prohibits a certified candidate under the Maine Clean Election Act from establishing a political action committee for which the candidate is a principal officer, fund-raiser or decision maker.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-157)

This amendment changes the title and replaces the bill. The amendment which was not adopted, establishes a contribution limit of \$350 per contributor for a political action committee for which a current Legislator is a principal decision maker, officer or fund-raiser.

LD 428 An Act To License Betting on Football Score Pools ONTP

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

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

This bill authorizes the Chief of the State Police to issue a license to operate football score pools. A person licensed to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption is eligible for a football score pool license. The fee for a football score pool license is \$50 per calendar year. A football score pool operator may retain an operator fee in an amount up to 20% of the total entry fees received for that football score pool.

LD 433 An Act To Provide Parity in Funding to the Maine Maritime Academy ONTP
from Gaming

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

This bill directs the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board to forward revenue from slot machines operated by a casino operator and by a slot machine operator to the Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy to help fund its scholarships program.

LD 459 An Act To Amend the Law Concerning a Landlord's Right To Inspect ONTP
Property

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

This bill requires a tenant who is unable to provide a landlord access to the dwelling unit upon 24 hours' notice to set up an alternative time within 72 hours when the landlord may be granted access to the dwelling unit. If the tenant fails to provide an alternative time and denies access to the dwelling unit by the landlord, the landlord is authorized to enter the dwelling unit without consent of the tenant.

LD 471 An Act To Preserve and Ensure Equitable Funding of Maine's INDEF PP
Commercial Racetracks

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

This bill was acted upon without reference to committee.

This bill amends the definition of "commercial track" by changing the number of racing days from 100 to 50 and by adding that a race track that is operated in place of a race track that ceased operation and that is authorized to operate slot machines or a casino must provide at least 100 days of live racing each year to qualify as a commercial track.

The bill also changes the way the distribution of funds is calculated by basing the calculation on the number of race days conducted during the year 2012. It also removes the provision governing the January payment adjustment. The bill also requires the State Harness Racing Commission to establish rules regulating the sale by commercial tracks of pari-mutuel pools by the telephone, Internet or other means of communication to persons not located on the premises.