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 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
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREECommittee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES
DIED IN CONCURRENCEdefeated 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 ENACTMENTlegislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNORGovernor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAWsponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODYruled 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
PUBLIC XXX
RESOLVE XXX
VETO SUSTAINEDLegislature 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

LD 649 An Act To Facilitate Consumer Taste Testings

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
TUTTLE LUCHINI	ONTP	

This bill allows manufacturers and suppliers of alcoholic beverages and certain licensed sales representatives to purchase alcoholic beverages from a retail licensee's existing stock for use exclusively in a consumer taste-testing event held at the retail licensee's premises. The bill requires the retail licensee to apply a sticker to the product to be used for the taste-testing event stating that the product is for sampling purposes and not for resale. The bill requires the removal of the remainder of the sampled products from the retail licensee's premises following the taste-testing event.

LD 659 An Act To Reimburse Philip Wolley for Litigation Expenses Incurred in Connection with His Termination and Reinstatement as a State

DIED BETWEEN HOUSES

Employee

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
GILLWAY	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$28,000 in fiscal year 2013-14 to reimburse Philip Wolley for litigation expenses incurred in connection with his termination and subsequent reinstatement as a state employee.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-109)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment clarifies that the litigation expenses to be reimbursed are associated with Philip Wolley's defense against criminal charges that were ultimately dismissed by the Attorney General.

Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted. Although the bill was committed back to the committee in the Senate, the House accepted the majority "Ought Not to Pass" report.

LD 677

An Act Concerning Postsecondary Tuition Waivers for Children of Veterans

PUBLIC 365

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
BOLAND	OTP-AM	H-404
CUSHING	OTP-AM	

This bill amends the laws governing postsecondary tuition waivers for the children of certain veterans to provide that a child of a veteran has 6 academic years from the date of first entrance to complete 120 credit hours. Current law provides that a child of a veteran has six academic years from the date of first entrance to complete eight semesters.

It adds a learning disability or other hardship to the circumstances under which the Director of the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services may waive the limit of six consecutive academic years to complete the specified number of credit hours.

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Committee Amendment "A" (H-404)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The bill gives a child of a veteran receiving a tuition waiver 6 academic years to complete 120 credit hours. The amendment provides that the six-year limit may be extended for up to two academic years for certain causes. The amendment requires state-supported postsecondary educational institutions and vocational schools to provide the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services with a list of students receiving tuition waivers and the total number of credit hours provided subject to the waivers.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-405)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee and was not adopted, strikes any academic year limit by which a student of a veteran receiving a tuition waiver must complete 120 credit hours. The amendment also requires state-supported postsecondary educational institutions and vocational schools to provide the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services with a list of students receiving tuition waivers and the total number of credit hours provided subject to the waivers.

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

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 365 provides that a child of a veteran receiving a tuition waiver has 6 academic years to complete 120 credit hours. It also provides that the six-year limit may be extended for up to two academic years for certain causes. Chapter 365 requires state-supported postsecondary educational institutions and vocational schools to provide the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services with a list of students receiving tuition waivers and the total number of credit hours provided subject to the waivers.

LD 702 An Act To Strengthen the Law Prohibiting Black Market Wagering on Harness Horse Races ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
TUTTLE	ONTP	

This bill amends the laws governing harness racing to stipulate that a person may not place a bet on a harness horse race with any person, firm or entity that is not licensed by the State Harness Racing Commission.

LD 704 An Act To Improve the Availability of Coupons in the State

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
TUTTLE		

This bill allows an agency store licensee to redeem coupons on a voluntary basis. The bill removes language that requires that instant redeemable coupons be inserted in the package by the manufacturer or attached to the package by the manufacturer, manufacturer's agent or manufacturer's sales representative. The bill also removes language that requires that instant redeemable coupons be made available to all agency store licensees electing to offer the coupon in an amount equal to the agency store's inventory of spirits products that are subject to the coupon promotion and removes language that instant redeemable coupons are for the benefit of the on-premise retail licensee. The bill also requires the State Liquor and Lottery Commission to establish rules to implement the provisions of this bill.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as