

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

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 ONTP
 Harness Horse Races**

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

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

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 766 An Act To Define "Brand" under the Liquor Laws

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)

BEAULIEU
MASON G

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill defines "brand" under the liquor laws as the common name used to identify a manufacturer's line or family of liquor products comprising individual labels.

This bill was 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 767 An Act To Limit Contributions to Candidates for Maine Offices to
Maine Residents**

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

MACDONALD W

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill limits contributions to candidates seeking to be elected as Governor, as a member of the Legislature or for a municipal office to contributions from state residents.

LD 768 An Act To Increase Access to Voter Lists

PUBLIC 330

Sponsor(s)

CHIPMAN

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

H-329

This bill requires municipal registrars to make available to an elected office holder during the office holder's term central voter registration system information concerning voters in a municipality the office holder represents in whole or in part.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-329)

This amendment replaces the bill. Under current law, parties, individuals or organizations can purchase reports of certain voter information for voter participation efforts directly related to a campaign.

This amendment provides that a person who has been elected to a state, federal, county or municipal office can also purchase such reports.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 330 amends the law which provides that political parties, individuals or organizations can purchase reports of certain voter information for voter participation efforts directly related to a campaign. Chapter 330 provides that a person who has been elected to a state, federal, county or municipal office can also purchase such reports.