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 924 An Act To Prevent a Conflict of Interest of the Secretary of State

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
CAREY	ONTP	
TUTTLE		

This bill provides that a person may not serve as Secretary of State while that person is conducting a campaign for elected office.

LD 938 An Act To Update the Laws Relating to the Tri-state Lotto and the Payment of Prizes to Minors

PUBLIC 352

Sponsor(s)	<u>Committee Report</u>	Amendments Adopted
LUCHINI	OTP-AM	H-429
MASON A		

This bill clarifies the payment of lottery prizes to minors. It fixes a discrepancy between the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 8, sections 403 and 415 and sets the minimum payout by the Tri-state Lotto Commission for prizes to not less than 50% of gross sales. It allows for the Tri-state Lotto Commission to implement both draw and instant ticket games as part of the Tri-state Lotto game portfolio. It adds language to require the Tri-state Lotto Commission to offset against winnings, in addition to debts for child support, debts related to unemployment overpayment and tax liabilities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-429)

This amendment establishes a definition of "electronic funds transfer" as it applies to payment of prizes and provides that a check or electronic funds transfer may be provided to a minor's family or guardian for payment of a prize issued by the Maine State Lottery or under the Tri-state Lotto Compact. The amendment also clarifies the bill with regard to authorizing administration of instant ticket games under the Tri-state Lotto Compact by inserting appropriate references.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 352 establishes a definition of "electronic funds transfer" as it applies to payment of prizes and provides that a check or electronic funds transfer may be provided to a minor's family or guardian for payment of a prize issued by the Maine State Lottery or under the Tri-state Lotto Compact. It allows for the Tri-state Lotto Commission to implement both draw and instant ticket games as part of the Tri-state Lotto game portfolio and provides clarification with regard to authorizing administration of instant ticket games under the Tri-state Lotto Compact by inserting appropriate references. Chapter 352 sets the minimum payout by the Tri-state Lotto Commission for prizes to not less than 50% of gross sales. Finally, chapter 352 adds language to require the Tri-state Lotto Commission to offset against winnings, in addition to debts for child support, debts related to unemployment overpayment and tax liabilities.

LD 941 An Act To Facilitate the Expansion of the State's Liquor Distribution System

PUBLIC 253

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
ALFOND	OTP-AM	S-148
RUSSELL	ONTP	

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

This bill authorizes the licensing of 12 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over 45,000 to provide larger municipalities with more equitable access to agency liquor stores.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-148)

The bill authorizes the licensing of 12 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over 45,000 to provide larger municipalities with more equitable access to agency liquor stores. This amendment amends the bill to allow up to 10 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over 50,000.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 253 allows the licensing of up to 10 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over 50,000. Under existing law the maximum number of stores in a municipality is eight.

LD 981 An Act To Allow Candidate Name Tags on Election Day

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
CASAVANT	ONTP	
DUTREMBLE		

This bill allows a candidate who stands outside the polls, within the designated area, to wear a name tag.

LD 1001 An Act To Improve Laws Governing Financial Disclosure by Legislators and Certain Public Employees and Public Access to Information Disclosed

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PUBLIC 401

Sponsor(s)	<u>Committee Report</u>	Amendments Adopted
CAIN	OTP-AM	S-166
BEAULIEU		S-346 HILL

This bill amends financial disclosure laws applicable to Legislators and certain executive branch employees. Annual income received of \$2,000 or more must include a description as to the nature of the income. Ownership interests of 5% or more in business entities must be reported. Involvement as a responsible officer of a political party or political committee by the Legislator or executive employee, or by a member of that person's immediate family, must be reported. The Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices is directed to adopt rules that require reporting of income of \$2,000 or more in ranges. Finally, Legislators and executive employees are required to file their disclosure statements electronically and those statements must be on a publicly accessible website.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-166)

This amendment clarifies language in the bill regarding the requirement that financial disclosure statements required to be filed by Legislators and certain executive branch employees be filed electronically and immediately placed on a publicly accessible website. It also allows the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to assist with the electronic filing if necessary. The amendment removes the requirement that the commission adopt routine technical rules to provide for income disclosures to be sorted in ranges based on amount. Instead, the amendment directs the commission to make recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs, which may then submit a bill directing the commission to adopt major substantive rules to provide for income disclosures to be reported in ranges based on income amount.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-346)