

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
126<sup>TH</sup> 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

126<sup>TH</sup> 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 126<sup>th</sup> 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 126<sup>th</sup> 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*

donations in excess of \$10.

**LD 1042**

**An Act To Increase the Opportunities for Taste-testing Events for On-premises Liquor Licensees**

**PUBLIC 258**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE LONGSTAFF	OTP-AM ONTP	S-225

This bill allows on-premises liquor licensees to conduct up to three taste-testing events per month for the general public under conditions and restrictions similar to those imposed upon off-premises licensees. The bill also allows in-state distillers, brewers and wineries and in-state and out-of-state wholesalers to provide or supply products for the on-premises licensee to use as taste-testing samples including by purchasing those products from the on-premises licensee's existing stock of inventory.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-225)**

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs.

This amendment reduces the number of taste-testing events that may occur at an establishment licensed for on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages from 3 per month to one per month. The amendment requires that liquor provided for taste-testing events be provided by the licensee and not a manufacturer or wholesaler. The amendment specifies that taste-testing events are to be in a designated area of the establishment and that liquor remaining after the event may be returned to the licensee's stock. Finally, the amendment authorizes the division within the Department of Public Safety responsible for liquor licensing and enforcement to adopt rules and requires the division to submit a report regarding the conduct of taste-testing events at on-premises establishments.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 258 allows for taste testing of malt liquor, wine and spirits at an establishment licensed for on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages. The number of public taste testings are limited to one per month at any one establishment. Liquor provided for a taste testing must be provided by the licensee and the tasting must be limited to a designated area. A sales representative, wholesale licensee or certificate of approval holder may participate in the event and provide food or snacks as well as promotional displays and novelty items of nominal value.

**LD 1077**

**An Act To Amend the Maine Clean Election Act and Campaign Finance Laws**

**ONTP**

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

This bill removes the contribution limits placed on a person who wishes to contribute directly to the campaign of a candidate for the Legislature, Governor or other state or local offices. It also amends the Maine Clean Election Act by eliminating the requirement that participants must collect \$5 qualifying contributions. In order to qualify for distributions from the Maine Clean Election Fund, a candidate need only be certified as a candidate under the process governed by the Secretary of State and by filing a declaration of intent by April 1st of the election year. Under this bill, a participating candidate under the Maine Clean Election Act is not prohibited from accepting contributions from outside sources. The bill also provides that there are not distinctions made between enrolled and unenrolled candidates under the Maine Clean Election Act.