

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS
AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

May 2014

MEMBERS:

SEN. JOHN L. TUTTLE, JR., CHAIR
SEN. JOHN L. PATRICK
SEN. GARRETT PAUL MASON

REP. LOUIS J. LUCHINI, CHAIR
REP. DIANE RUSSELL
REP. THOMAS R. W. LONGSTAFF
REP. LORI FOWLE
REP. ROBERT J. SAUCIER
REP. JOHN C. SCHNECK
REP. MICHAEL G. BEAULIEU
REP. BETH P. TURNER*
REP. JEFFREY ALLEN GIFFORD
REP. JONATHAN L. KINNEY
REP. WAYNE T. MITCHELL

STAFF:

DANIELLE D. FOX, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
COLLEEN MCCARTHY REID, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

*Committee member for the duration of the absence of Rep. David D. Johnson.

STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND
ENACTED LAWS

The *Digest* is arranged 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.

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 HOUSESHouse & 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
EMERGENCYenacted 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 Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature is August 1, 2014. 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

exclusively.

Public Law 2013, chapter 476 was enacted as an emergency measure and effective March 16, 2014.

LD 1615 An Act To Amend the Election Laws

**PUBLIC 457
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LUCHINI TUTTLE	OTP-AM	H-620 H-662 LUCHINI

This bill makes the following changes to the election laws.

1. It specifies that a municipal clerk must keep the record of receipts for ballots issued and received in that clerk's office.
2. It resolves a conflict in the Maine Revised Statutes created when two public laws amended the same section of law in different ways by incorporating the changes made by both laws.
3. It removes the requirement that a list of absentee voters include a place for the registrar to certify the voter registration status of the absentee voters.
4. It changes the deadline, from 30 days to 60 days prior to the election, for a municipality to give notice to the Secretary of State that the municipality intends to process absentee ballots prior to election day.
5. It repeals the requirement that referendum ballots be printed on paper of a distinctive color.
6. It corrects a number of typographical and other errors in the laws that reapportion the State Senate, State House and County Commissioner districts.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-620)

This amendment corrects a boundary description in the provision of laws governing the apportionment of State House Districts.

House Amendment "A" (H-662)

This amendment makes the 2013 apportionment law consistent with the provisions of the Androscoggin County Charter.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 457 makes the following changes to the election laws.

1. It specifies that a municipal clerk must keep the record of receipts for ballots issued and received in that clerk's office.
2. It resolves a conflict in the Maine Revised Statutes created when two public laws amended the same section of law in different ways by incorporating the changes made by both laws.
3. It removes the requirement that a list of absentee voters include a place for the registrar to certify the voter registration status of the absentee voters.
4. It changes the deadline, from 30 days to 60 days prior to the election, for a municipality to give notice to the

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Secretary of State that the municipality intends to process absentee ballots prior to election day.

5. It repeals the requirement that referendum ballots be printed on paper of a distinctive color.
6. It corrects a number of typographical and other errors in the laws that reapportion the State Senate, State House and County Commissioner districts, including a boundary description of a State House District.
7. It makes the 2013 apportionment law consistent with the provisions of the Androscoggin County Charter.

Public Law 2013, chapter 457 was enacted as an emergency measure and took effect on March 11, 2014.

LD 1631 An Act To Clarify What Constitutes a Contribution to a Candidate Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVIELLO	OTP-AM ONTP	S-446

This bill amends the laws regarding limitations on campaign contributions and expenditures to clarify that any expenditure made by a person who has been affiliated with a campaign, regardless of whether the person has been paid or the actual duties the person has performed, or by a person who has received compensation from the campaign is considered a contribution to the candidate.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-446)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It strikes the bill and amends the laws regarding limitations on campaign contributions and expenditures to clarify that any expenditures made by a key person who has been affiliated with a campaign in the last 120 days, regardless of whether the person has been paid or the actual duties the person has performed, or by a person who has received compensation from the campaign, are a contribution to the candidate. The amendment clarifies that the value of services provided by an individual without compensation are excluded in the definition of "expenditures." It also specifies categories of persons who are affiliated with a candidate's campaign for purposes of this provision. The amendment incorporates the term "agent" into the definition of "key person affiliated with the candidate's campaign" and thereby preserves the provision in existing law that designates expenditures by a candidate's agent as contributions to the candidate. The amendment also strikes the emergency preamble and the emergency clause from the bill.

LD 1632 Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management To Request the Federal Government To Recognize Environmental Hazards at the Military Training Center in Gagetown, New Brunswick and the Resulting Health Risks and Disabilities Suffered by Certain Members of the Maine National Guard RESOLVE 100

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE LONGSTAFF	OTP-AM	S-421

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to request the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to recognize the environmental hazards present at the 5th Canadian Division Support Base in Gagetown, New Brunswick, Canada, and the resulting potential health risks and disabilities to veterans who, as members of the Maine National Guard, trained in partnership with Canadian military forces in Gagetown. The resolve requires the commissioner to report on the status of the request to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over veterans and legal affairs by January 10, 2015.