

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH 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 128th 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. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

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 128th Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

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a landlord to terminate a tenancy upon seven days' written notice if the landlord can demonstrate that the tenant or the tenant's invitee or guest is the perpetrator of violence, a threat of violence or sexual assault against other tenants, their guests, the landlord or the landlord's employees or agents, except that a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking who has taken reasonable actions to comply with a landlord's request for the protection of tenants, guests or invitees or the landlord from violence or the threat of violence or sexual assault is not subject to eviction with a seven-day notice of termination. The law also allows a landlord to terminate a tenancy upon seven days' written notice for an unauthorized occupation of the premises.

LD 155 An Act To Protect Voting Integrity by Establishing a Residency Verification Requirement for Purposes of Voting

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE K	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill requires the registrar of voters to verify residency when a voter registration application lists a residence address as a dormitory or domicile provided by, or located on the campus of, a postsecondary educational institution. The bill provides that certain requirements must be met to establish residency.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-92)

This amendment, which is the majority report, adds a mandate preamble and incorporates a fiscal note.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 156 An Act To Implement the National Popular Vote for President

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RYKERSON D	ONTP OTP	

This bill proposes to adopt the interstate compact that is the agreement among the states to elect the President of the United States by national popular vote. Under the compact and the bill, the presidential candidate who receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia will win the presidency. Under this bill, all of the State's electoral votes would be awarded to the presidential candidate who receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. This bill would take effect only when enacted by states possessing a majority of the electoral votes, that is, enough electoral votes to elect a President, which is 270 of 538.

LD 212 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require That Signatures on a Direct Initiative of Legislation Come from Each State Senatorial District

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARVELL L VOLK A	ONTP	

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that the signatures on a petition to directly initiate legislation be of voters from each of the State's senate districts and that the number of signatures from each senate district be not less than 10% of the total votes for Governor cast in that senate district in the previous

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gubernatorial election. The resolution provides that, if the required votes are cast in favor of the proposed amendment to the Constitution, the proposed amendment becomes part of the Constitution on March 1, 2018 instead of on the date of the Governor's proclamation.

LD 213 An Act To Provide Funds for Access for Veterans Seeking Health Care

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDEN J LIBBY N	OTP-AM	H-10

This bill provides a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$45,000 in fiscal year 2016-17 to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management for passports to allow veterans to access United States Veterans Administration health care facilities located on military installations in New Hampshire.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-10)

This amendment directs the Commissioner of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management or the commissioner's designee to pay for the fee charged for a passport card issued by the United States Department of State for a veteran who demonstrates a need to access federal military installations located in New Hampshire for medical services provided by the United States Veterans Administration and does not have the required photographic identification required. Unlike the bill, which provides an appropriation to pay for the costs of passports, the amendment provides funding for passport cards. The amendment reduces the appropriation proposed in the bill from \$45,000 to \$15,000. Under the amendment, if any funds appropriated for passport cards remain unspent 90 days following the date upon which the State conforms with the requirements of the federal REAL ID Act of 2005, that balance must be used to provide financial assistance to veterans and dependents of veterans as prescribed by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 37-B, section 505.

LD 214 Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Streamline Veterans' Licensing and Certification

**RESOLVE 27
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDEN J JACKSON T	OTP-AM	H-187

This resolve creates the Commission To Streamline Veterans' Licensing and Certification to study and address military service members' and veterans' transition from military service to the civilian workforce. The commission is also charged with making recommendations to streamline licensing and certification processes for service members and veterans.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-187)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolves 2017, chapter 27 creates the Commission To Streamline Veterans' Licensing and Certification to study and address military service members' and veterans' transition from military service to the civilian workforce. The commission is also charged with making recommendations to streamline licensing and certification processes for service members and veterans.

Resolves 2017, chapter 27 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective August 2, 2017.