

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.

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

LD 980 An Act To Improve Absentee Balloting ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIERCE T MILLETT R	ONTP	

This bill requires that the list of requests for absentee ballots that a clerk is required to create and maintain include, in the case of a request that is rejected, the reasons for the rejection.

LD 995 An Act To Allow a Resident Veteran's Child Who Is Enrolled in an ONTP
Out-of-state College or University To Take a Course in Maine at a State
Postsecondary Education Institution for Free

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STANLEY S GRATWICK G	ONTP	

This bill provides that a person who is enrolled as a student at a postsecondary education institution outside this State and who is the child of a veteran who is a resident of this State may take one course at a state postsecondary education institution in this State with no charge for tuition.

LD 1012 An Act To Improve the Availability of Agency Liquor Stores in ONTP
Underserved Areas and To Expand the Sale of Spirits in New Channels

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

This bill creates an exception to the limit on the number of agency liquor stores allowed by population threshold to allow the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to license an agency liquor store in a municipality without an agency liquor store as long as an agency liquor store is not located within 3.5 miles of the municipality. With regard to such a store, it allows the bureau to adopt rules regarding hours, seasons of operation and inventory. It also allows the bureau to license stores in municipalities along interstate highways and at major airports in the State and requires the bureau to enter into contracts for the management of those stores.

LD 1013 An Act To Clarify the Law Allowing Certificate of Approval Holders PUBLIC 153
and Manufacturers or Suppliers of Spirits To Offer Mail-in Rebates

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KINNEY J	OTP-AM ONTP	H-265

This bill clarifies that a manufacturer or supplier of spirits or a certificate of approval holder may offer mail-in rebates approved by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations that offer an incrementally greater discount for an increased volume of purchased spirits.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-265)

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

This amendment, the majority report, replaces the bill. The amendment clarifies that mail-in rebates may offer an incrementally greater discount on the purchase of liquor based upon increased volume of purchased product.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 153 clarifies that mail-in rebates offered to consumers on the purchase of spirits, beer, wine and low alcohol spirits products may offer an incrementally greater discount on the purchase of liquor based upon increased volume of purchased product.

LD 1033 An Act To Eliminate the 24-hour Reporting Requirement under the Election Laws Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MASON G LUCHINI L	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill removes the requirement for political candidates, party committees and political action committees to report to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices within 24 hours of receiving certain contributions or making certain expenditures after the 14th day before an election.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-213)

This amendment, the minority report, replaces the bill, which eliminates the requirement that political action committees, state party committees, local party committees and candidates file 24-hour reports for certain contributions and expenditures. The amendment eliminates the 24-hour reporting requirement for expenditures of \$1,000 or more made by candidates.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1035 An Act To Require an Opinion of the Supreme Judicial Court on Direct Initiatives of Legislation ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TURNER B BRAKEY E	ONTP	

This bill requires the Legislature to request an opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court for a direct initiative of legislation that will be submitted to the voters. It also requires that this opinion be printed on the ballot containing the direct initiative of legislation.

LD 1046 An Act To Require Maine Clean Election Act Candidates To Purchase Services from Maine-based Companies ONTP

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

This bill provides that services purchased by a candidate with funds from the Maine Clean Election Fund must be purchased from a business with an office in this State unless no such business is available to provide the services.