

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

Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations of the extended hour within 30 days of adoption.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-266)

This amendment, which is the majority report, makes technical changes to the bill to clarify that an on-premises licensee may sell liquor until 2 a.m. if the municipality in which the licensee is located approves liquor sales until 2 a.m.

LD 1122

An Act To Amend the Campaign Reports and Finances Law and the Maine Clean Election Act

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM OTP-AM	H-367

The bill amends the laws governing the financing of political campaigns and the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices by:

1. Clarifying that the definition of "election" covers both candidate and ballot question elections;
2. Requiring the commission to submit an annual statistical report of campaign finance activity to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over legal affairs;
3. Amending the requirement for state party committees to provide names, mailing addresses and e-mail addresses of the chair and treasurer for municipal, district and county party committees to the commission;
4. Eliminating the requirement for unopposed primary election candidates to report contributions and expenditures of \$1,000 or more within 24 hours during the last 13 days before the primary election;
5. Requiring candidates to disclose the addresses of payees and creditors in their campaign finance reports;
6. Permitting candidates to spend surplus campaign contributions on expenses associated with a recount of an election;
7. Clarifying the reporting deadlines for state party committees, political action committees and ballot question committees. Under the bill, quarterly campaign finance reports are due every year; committees must file preelection and post-election reports on the 11th day before and the 42nd day after an election for both the primary and general elections during a candidate election year; and for elections held in other years, committees must file the preelection and post-election reports only if they received contributions or made expenditures for the purpose of influencing the election;
8. Clarifying that municipal, district and county party committees are not required to report large contributions and expenditures within 24 hours during the last 13 days before a primary election;
9. Increasing the potential penalty for an individual's failure to register as a candidate with the commission from \$10 to \$100;
10. Defining "caucus political action committee" to mean a committee designated by a party leader in the Legislature to promote the election of the nominees of their political party to the House or Senate;
11. Eliminating the requirement for candidates to report money order fees paid by the candidate with personal funds when seeking Maine Clean Election Act funding; and

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

12. Prohibiting candidates and others from signing the name of a contributor on a receipt and acknowledgment form submitted to the commission, except when a contributor's immediate family member, domestic partner or live-in caregiver signs on behalf of the contributor due to a physical impairment or disability.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-367)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, strikes the provisions in the bill that define "caucus political action committee" and the provision that requires each appointed legislative leader of a political party in the House of Representatives and the Senate to designate one caucus political action committee to promote the election of nominees to be the party's appointed leader. The amendment also strikes the provision in the bill that directs the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to submit an annual statistical report of campaign finance activity.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-368)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee. The amendment adds a provision to the bill that provides that, for the purposes of a recount, donations made to candidates who are not enrolled in a political party are not subject to contribution limits.

LD 1125 An Act To Establish a Recall Procedure for Elected Officials

ONTP

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

This bill establishes a recall procedure for federal, state and local elected officials and specifies grounds for such a recall.

LD 1174 An Act To Clarify the Use of Public Money for Bulk Mailing in the Election Process

Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CUSHING A GUERIN S	OTP-AM ONTP	

This bill requires a treasurer or deputy treasurer of a Maine Clean Election Act candidate, or a political action committee engaging in bulk mailing in connection to the campaign of a participating or certified candidate, to document all bulk mail by submitting a copy of United States Postal Service form 3602 for standard mail and form 3600 for first-class mail to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-214)

Like the bill, this amendment, which is the majority report, requires reporting of expenditures used for bulk mail. Unlike the bill, which only applied to campaigns with a candidate certified as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate, this amendment requires documentation of the use of bulk mail by all candidates and political action committees to be included in campaign finance reports.