

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
128<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**

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# STATE OF MAINE

128<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 128<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. 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 128<sup>th</sup> 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

of Maliseet Indians is not subject to any fees. The amendment provides that the casino operated by the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians is subject to the fees applied to casinos that were initially licensed before 2012 under current law except that the initial license fee is \$100,000 and the annual renewal fee is \$35,000. The amendment also makes a change to the distribution of table game revenue, which under the bill provides 2% of net revenue to all off-track betting facilities and to nonprofit organizations that conduct licensed charitable gaming. The amendment changes this distribution so that 1% of table game revenue supplements harness racing purses and 1% goes to veterans' organizations that have been continuously operating licensed charitable gaming for at least two years as of January 1, 2017.

### LD 1449 An Act To Support Maine Military Charities

PUBLIC 114

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE K MASON G	OTP-AM	H-264

This bill authorizes the Military Bureau to provide space in military facilities to nonprofit organizations that provide assistance to members or families of members of the Maine National Guard. Under the bill, space provided to a nonprofit organization by the Military Bureau may be used only to provide assistance to members or families of members of the Maine National Guard.

#### Committee Amendment "A" (H-264)

This amendment replaces the bill. It establishes a definition of state military welfare society and authorizes the Adjutant General to provide logistical and administrative support to state military welfare societies and similar societies established under federal law. The amendment also provides that the Adjutant General may authorize state military welfare societies to distribute financial assistance to state military forces and their families from the Maine Military Family Relief Fund.

#### Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 114 establishes a definition of state military welfare society and authorizes the Adjutant General to provide logistical and administrative support to state military welfare societies and similar societies established under federal law. It also provides that the Adjutant General may authorize state military welfare societies to distribute financial assistance to state military forces and their families from the Maine Military Family Relief Fund.

### LD 1480 An Act To Improve the Disclosure of Major Contributors Influencing Maine Elections

Accepted Majority  
(ONTP) Report

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

This bill amends the law governing campaign financing and reporting by:

1. Setting more specific criteria for the reporting of contributions by an organization that has received funds for multiple purposes and has formed a political action committee; and
2. Requiring an organization that has contributed more than \$100,000 to a political action committee, party committee or ballot question committee in this State to file a one-time report with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices disclosing information about the organization, its top five sources of funding and a

*Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs*

certification as to whether the organization has received money to influence elections in this State.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-526)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

**LD 1525      An Act To Clarify the Laws Governing Alcohol Manufacturer Licenses      ONTP**

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

This bill removes duplicative language regarding samples provided to the public by manufacturers licensed to produce wine, malt liquor and spirits in the State. The bill consolidates into one paragraph the provisions that govern the sale of a manufacturer's product for off-premises consumption to nonlicensees from the licensed manufacturer's facility. It also repeals and replaces in a separate subsection the provisions governing the authorization of a licensed manufacturer in the State to have a retail establishment licensed for the sale of liquor to be consumed on the premises, issued in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-A, chapter 43.

**LD 1533      An Act To Update the Laws Relating to Liquor Licensing and Enforcement      PUBLIC 167**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LUCHINI L	OTP-AM	H-363

This bill:

1. Replaces the term "golf club" with "golf course" to eliminate the confusion in Title 28-A between golf clubs and other types of clubs;
2. Eliminates a threshold amount for a single retail purchase of liquor;
3. Clarifies which type of establishments on the same premises as an off-premises retailer must serve full course meals or food;
4. Removes the requirement that a business prior to being considered for an agency liquor store license must have sold malt liquor and wine for one year and have been violation free for that same period;
5. Amends language that establishes a minimum inventory value of spirits based on the population threshold established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-A, section 461;
6. Removes language providing an exception for businesses with more than five locations in the State that are sold to a company that has sold malt liquor or wine in another state;
7. Eliminates the fee for an application for a relocation of an agency liquor store within the same municipality and adds a requirement that the application for relocation include proof that all existing agency liquor stores in the same municipality were notified of the relocation prior to approval by that municipality;
8. Repeals the requirement that the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations hold a public hearing on the relocation application. The only approval needed is