

# 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**

August 2017

**STAFF:**

DANIELLE FOX, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
COLLEEN MCCARTHY REID, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/opla/>

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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*

Beverages and Lottery Operations from suspending, revoking or refusing to renew certain licenses for the manufacture or sale of liquor issued prior to June 1, 2017 based solely on a change in the bureau's interpretation of the terms "exclusively held" or "exclusively owned."

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-546)**

This amendment, the minority report, strikes the bill and replaces it with a resolve containing the provision that temporarily prohibits the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations from suspending, revoking or refusing to renew certain licenses solely based on a change in the bureau's interpretation of the terms "exclusively held" or "exclusively owned."

This amendment was not adopted.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 280 clarifies one of the criteria that qualify a person who is licensed to manufacture liquor in the State to also have an establishment licensed for the sale of liquor to be consumed on the licensed premises. It requires that the person have a controlling interest in both the manufacturing business and the on-premises establishment, regardless of the business structure of either entity. As applicable to this law, "person" is defined as an individual, partnership, corporation, firm, association or other legal entity.

The law also temporarily prohibits the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations from suspending, revoking or refusing to renew certain licenses for the manufacture or sale of liquor issued prior to June 1, 2017 based solely on a change in the bureau's interpretation of the terms "exclusively held" or "exclusively owned."

Public Law 2017, chapter 280 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 29, 2017.

**LD 1646**

### **An Act To Bring Maine's Ranked-choice Voting Law into Constitutional Compliance**

**CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)

ACKLEY K

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill amends the ranked-choice voting law to bring it into compliance with the Constitution of Maine by applying the provisions of the law only to primary elections for the offices of United States Senator, United States Representative to Congress, Governor, State Senator and State Representative and general and special elections for the offices of United States Senator and United States Representative to Congress. The bill does not allow ranked-choice voting to be used for general and special elections for the offices of Governor, State Senator and State Representative unless an amendment to the Constitution of Maine, Article IV, Part First, Section 5, Article IV, Part Second, Sections 4 and 5 and Article V, Part First, Section 3 that authorizes the Legislature, by proper enactment, to determine the method by which the Governor and members of the State Senate and House of Representatives are elected is ratified.

The bill requires the Secretary of State to adopt routine technical rules for the administration of ranked-choice voting, including the administration of recounts.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H. P. 1138.