

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
129<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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**STAFF:**

JANET STOCCO, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
DANIEL TARTAKOFF, 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

129<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 129<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 129<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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

Finally, Public Law 2019, chapter 13 authorizes the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over lottery and alcoholic beverage matters to submit legislation based on the reports submitted by the director to the committee each year.

### LD 34 An Act To Clarify Game of Chance Licensing Requirements

PUBLIC 60

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUELL W MOORE M	OTP-AM	H-92

This bill authorizes nonprofit fraternal and veterans' organizations to conduct cribbage tournaments in which no cash prizes are awarded without obtaining a license from or registering with the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit.

#### Committee Amendment "A" (H-92)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. Under current law, an organization must obtain a license to hold or conduct a game of chance, including a card game, if the players risk something of value for the opportunity to win something of value. The amendment modifies the definition of "something of value" to clarify that a license is not required merely because players are entitled to play the game of chance for free or to be entertained for free while playing the game.

#### Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 60 modifies the definition of "something of value" in the laws governing games of chance to clarify that an organization is not required to obtain a license to hold or to conduct a game of chance, including a card game, merely because players are entitled to play the game of chance for free or to be entertained for free while playing the game.

### LD 54 An Act To Limit the Influence of Lobbyists by Expanding the Prohibition on Accepting Political Contributions

HELD BY  
GOVERNOR

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHENETTE J COLLINGS B	OTP-AM ONTP	S-132

Current law prohibits the Governor, members of the Legislature, constitutional officers and the staff or agents of the Governor, from soliciting or accepting contributions from a lobbyist, lobbyist associate or employer while the Legislature is convened in session. This bill extends application of that prohibition year-round, regardless of whether the Legislature is in session.

#### Committee Amendment "A" (S-132)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, strikes and replaces the bill. The amendment reorganizes the structure of the current law prohibiting the Governor, members of the Legislature, constitutional officers and the staff or agents of these officials from soliciting or accepting contributions from a lobbyist, lobbyist associate, employer of a lobbyist or a lobbying firm while the Legislature is convened in session. The amendment clarifies that this prohibition does not apply to a contribution unless the contribution is the property of the lobbyist, lobbyist associate, employer of a lobbyist or lobbying firm.

The amendment also newly prohibits the Governor, a member of the Legislature or the staff or agent of these

***Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs***

officials from soliciting or accepting contributions from a lobbyist or lobbyist associate when the Legislature is not in session, unless the lobbyist or lobbyist associate is eligible to vote or will be eligible to vote on the day of the election in a district where the Governor or member of the Legislature will appear on the ballot. Similarly, the amendment prohibits a gubernatorial or legislative candidate and the staff or agent of these persons from soliciting or accepting contributions from a lobbyist or lobbyist associate at any time unless the lobbyist or lobbyist associate is eligible to vote or will be eligible to vote on the day of the election in a district where the gubernatorial or legislative candidate will appear on the ballot.

The amendment further clarifies the authority of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to undertake investigations to determine whether any person has improperly solicited, accepted, given or promised a contribution. A contribution made in violation of the law must be returned to the contributor.

The amendment also makes a technical change to remove an obsolete cross-reference to a portion of law repealed in 2008.

**Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-150)**

This amendment applies the prohibitions on campaign contributions and solicitations when the Legislature is not in legislative session to contributions directly and indirectly solicited or accepted by or given, offered and promised to a political action committee, ballot question committee or party committee of which the Governor, a member of the Legislature or the staff or agent of these officials is a treasurer, officer or primary fund-raiser or decision maker. The amendment also applies the prohibitions on campaign contributions and solicitations at all times, regardless of whether the Legislature is in legislative session, to contributions directly and indirectly solicited or accepted by or given, offered and promised to a political action committee, ballot question committee or party committee of which a gubernatorial or legislative candidate who is not the Governor or a member of the Legislature, or the staff or agent of these persons, is a treasurer, officer or primary fund-raiser or decision maker.

This amendment was originally adopted in the Senate but ultimately removed from the bill after the amendment failed adoption in the House.

**LD 76 An Act To Strengthen the Integrity of the Legislature**

**PUBLIC 57**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHENETTE J MCCREIGHT J	OTP-AM	S-43

This bill prohibits a former Legislator from engaging in any compensated lobbying activities for four years after that person's term as a Legislator ends rather than for one year as in current law. This extended prohibition begins with the convening of the 130th Legislature. The bill also removes the safe harbor in current law that allows a former Legislator to engage in up to eight hours of compensated lobbying per calendar month without violating the prohibition.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-43)**

Like the bill, this amendment removes the safe harbor in current law that allows a former Legislator to engage in up to eight hours of lobbying per calendar month without violating the prohibition against a former Legislator engaging in compensated lobbying. Unlike the bill, which prohibits a former Legislator from engaging in compensated lobbying activities for four years after that Legislator's term ends, the amendment prohibits a former Legislator from engaging in compensated lobbying activities for one year after that Legislator's term ends.

The amendment also makes a technical change to the bill to ensure that the prohibition against a former Legislator engaging in compensated lobbying does not prohibit the former Legislator from engaging in lobbying as an employee of the State or of an agency of the State.