

# 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**

August 2019

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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*

to otherwise carry out the purposes of the partnership program; and

5. Provides \$100,000 in annual, ongoing funding for reimbursement to human services-based volunteer organizations that provide transitional housing to homeless veterans and creates a new part-time position in the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services to help administer this partnership program.

Public Law 2019, chapter 504 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 28, 2019.

**LD 186      RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine  
To Specify the Qualifications of Electors      Died Between  
Houses**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>         | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| FAULKINGHAM B<br>GUERIN S | ONTP<br>OTP-AM          |                           |

This resolution proposes to amend Article II, section 1 of the Constitution of Maine to specify that only a person who is a citizen of the United States may vote in a state, county or municipal or other local election. Compare LD 1372.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-531)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note. This amendment was adopted in the Senate but not in the House.

**LD 202      An Act To Increase the Required Number of Qualifying Contributions  
Gubernatorial Candidates Must Obtain To Qualify as Maine Clean  
Election Act Candidates      Accepted Majority  
(ONTP) Report**

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

This bill increases from 3,200 to 6,000 the number of qualifying contributions a gubernatorial candidate must collect from registered voters to be certified as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-15)**

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

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 211      An Act To Open Maine's Primaries and Permit Unenrolled Voters To  
Cast Ballots in Primary Elections      Accepted Majority  
(ONTP) Report**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>      | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ACKLEY K<br>CHENETTE J | ONTP<br>OTP-AM          |                           |

This bill allows an unenrolled voter to vote in a primary election without having to enroll in a political party. An unenrolled voter may vote in only one party's primary election.