

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH 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

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

129TH 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 129th 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 129th 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

early voting, the municipal clerk delivers the sealed ballot boxes to the voting place as presently required by law. Compare LD 619.

LD 294 An Act To Require the Fiscal Impact Estimate of a Direct Initiative of Legislation To Be Included on the Ballot ONTP

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

This bill provides that a ballot for a statewide vote on a direct initiative must include a summary of the fiscal impact estimate prepared by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review for that direct initiative.

LD 322 An Act To Strengthen Maine's Election Laws by Requiring Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

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

This bill requires that a voter provide proof of identity with photographic identification approved by the Secretary of State by rule for the purpose of voting.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-94)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, strikes and replaces the bill and adds a mandate preamble. The amendment requires that a voter provide proof of identity with photographic identification for the purpose of voting. The amendment specifies the types of photographic identification that may be used to verify the identity of a voter. It provides that a person who does not present photographic identification may cast a provisional ballot and establishes the process for provisional voting. Under this process, if the person can verify the person's identity to the municipal clerk, deputy clerk or warden or an election clerk within three business days of the election by presenting acceptable photographic identification, the ballot will be cast as a regular ballot. Through the general election of 2020, a person who does not present acceptable photographic identification but is known to a municipal clerk, registrar or election official at the voting place may cast a regular ballot upon submission of an affidavit by the municipal clerk, registrar or election official attesting to the person's identity. Finally, the amendment requires the Secretary of State to provide, at no fee, nondriver identification cards to eligible persons who do not have another form of acceptable photographic identification to verify identity for the purpose of voting.

The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 352 An Act Regarding Licensing Fees for Certain Tournament Games PUBLIC 63

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SKOLFIELD T BLACK R	OTP-AM ONTP	H-95

This bill waives the license fees for game of chance tournaments with fewer than 50 players conducted by veterans' organizations.

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Committee Amendment "A" (H-95)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, reduces the license fees for games of chance tournaments with fewer than 50 players.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 63 reduces the license fees for games of chance tournaments with fewer than 50 players.

LD 361 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Political Action Committees

Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report

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

This bill prohibits a legislative candidate from establishing a political action committee for which the candidate is a treasurer or principal officer or for which the candidate is primarily responsible for fund-raising or decision making. The bill also makes a change to a provision under the Maine Clean Election Act, which includes the same prohibition, to specify that the prohibition in that Act applies only to participating gubernatorial candidates and certified gubernatorial candidates because participating and certified legislative candidates are included under the more general prohibition created by the bill.

LD 365 An Act To Allow Flexible Business Hours for Certain Agency Liquor Stores

PUBLIC 48

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KEIM L SCHNECK J	OTP-AM	S-22

This bill allows an agency liquor store flexibility in setting seasonal hours if the agency liquor store is subject to a substantial seasonal variation in business or retail customers based upon tourism or other factors.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-22)

This amendment requires an agency liquor store that establishes seasonal hours as allowed by the bill to send a written notice to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations of those seasonal hours.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 48 grants an agency liquor store the flexibility to set seasonal hours if the agency liquor store is subject to a substantial seasonal variation in business or retail customers based upon tourism or other factors. An agency liquor store that establishes seasonal hours must send a written notice to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations, of those seasonal hours.