

# 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*

**LD 499**

**An Act To Collect Data Regarding How Payment Is Made for Collection of Signatures for Direct Initiatives and People's Veto Referendums**

**PUBLIC 456**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GUERIN S SCHNECK J	OTP-AM ONTP	S-232

This bill prohibits the circulator or person who causes the circulation of a direct initiative or people's veto referendum petition or a petition organization from receiving payment for the collection of signatures based on the number of signatures collected. The bill clarifies that a salary or fee for the collection of signatures is not prohibited if it is not based on the number of signatures collected.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-232)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment replaces the title and the bill and strengthens the integrity of the direct initiative and people's veto referendum process by requiring a petition circulator to submit an affidavit that includes the circulator's name, the address at which the circulator resides and the date the circulator signed the affidavit; that the circulator read the information provided by the Secretary of State and understand the laws governing the circulation of petitions in Maine; that the circulator be a resident of Maine and a registered voter in Maine at the time of circulating the petition; and that the circulator understand that the circulator can be prosecuted for violating the laws governing the circulation of petitions, including the requirement that a circulator truthfully execute the affidavit. The amendment also requires petition organizations and others to indicate the method by which they are compensating any individuals hired to assist in circulating petitions.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 456 strengthens the integrity of the direct initiative and people's veto referendum process by requiring a petition circulator to submit an affidavit that includes the circulator's name, the address at which the circulator resides and the date the circulator signed the affidavit; that the circulator read the information provided by the Secretary of State and understand the laws governing the circulation of petitions in Maine; that the circulator was a resident of Maine and a registered voter in Maine at the time of circulating the petition; and that the circulator understand that the circulator can be prosecuted for violating the laws governing the circulation of petitions, including the requirement that a circulator truthfully execute the affidavit. The amendment also requires petition organizations and others to indicate the method by which they are compensating any individuals hired to assist in circulating petitions.

**LD 501**

**An Act To Provide Funding for the Homeless Veterans Center in Caribou**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T DEVEAU J	ONTP	

This bill provides a one-time appropriation of \$200,000 to the homeless veterans center in Caribou.