

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**

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STATE OF MAINE

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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.

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2. It eliminates the requirement that questions for a people's veto referendum be phrased so that an affirmative vote is in favor of the people's veto.
3. It requires that an explanation of the effect of a "yes" vote and the effect of a "no" vote be printed on the ballot immediately below each referendum question, including each people's veto, direct initiative, bond issue, constitutional amendment and other legislatively proposed referendum question.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 414 makes the following changes to the laws governing the printing of ballots for referendum questions.

1. It requires the Secretary of State to draft the ballot question for a people's veto or a direct initiative in a clear, concise and direct manner that describes the subject matter of the people's veto or direct initiative as simply as is possible.
2. It eliminates the requirement that questions for a people's veto referendum be phrased so that an affirmative vote is in favor of the people's veto.
3. It requires that an explanation of the effect of a "yes" vote and the effect of a "no" vote be printed on the ballot immediately below each referendum question, including each people's veto, direct initiative, bond issue, constitutional amendment and other legislatively proposed referendum question.

Public Law 2019, chapter 414 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 20, 2019.

LD 553

An Act To Ensure Proper Oversight of Sports Betting in the State

**HELD BY
GOVERNOR**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LUCHINI L	OTP-AM OTP-AM ONTP	S-318

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208 that proposes to ensure proper oversight of sports betting.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-318)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, strikes and replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. The amendment authorizes the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit to regulate sports wagering in the State.

Licensed commercial tracks, licensed off-track betting facilities, licensed casinos and federally recognized Indian tribes are eligible to apply for facility sports wagering licenses to conduct in-person sports wagering in the State. These entities are also eligible to apply for mobile sports wagering licenses to conduct sports wagering through mobile applications or digital platforms, as are qualified gaming entities that offer sports wagering through mobile applications or digital platforms in any jurisdiction in the United States pursuant to a state regulatory structure. Facility sports wagering licensees and mobile sports wagering licensees, referred to in the amendment as operators, may purchase or lease equipment, systems or services for sports wagering from entities with a supplier license, whose equipment, systems or services must meet standards established by rule. Operators may also enter into written contracts, approved by the director of the Gambling Control Unit within the Department of Public Safety, with management services licensees that have sufficient knowledge and experience in the business of operating

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sports wagering to effectively conduct sports wagering on behalf of operators. A person employed by a facility sports wagering licensee to be engaged directly in sports wagering-related activities must be licensed by the Gambling Control Unit.

Operators may accept wagers on professional, collegiate and amateur sports events, including international events, as well as on the individual performances of athletes, on motor vehicle races and on electronic sports. Sports wagers are prohibited on high school events, other events where a majority of participants are less than 18 years of age and events involving Maine-based colleges and universities. Operators may not accept sports wagers from individuals under 21 years of age; participants in the sports event, including athletes and officials; persons with an interest in the outcome of the sports event identified by the director by rule; the operator's own directors or employees or persons living in their households; persons voluntarily or involuntarily placed on a list maintained by the Gambling Control Unit within the Department of Public Safety of persons not authorized to make sports wagers; third persons making wagers on behalf of another person; and Gambling Control Unit employees. Mobile sports wagering licensees are also prohibited from accepting sports wagers from persons who are not physically located within the State.

A facility sports wagering licensee must remit 10% of the licensee's adjusted gross sports wagering receipts to the State and a mobile sports wagering licensee must remit 16% of the licensee's adjusted gross sports wagering receipts to the State. One percent of adjusted gross sports wagering receipts must be deposited in the General Fund for the administrative expenses of the Gambling Control Unit within the Department of Public Safety and 1% of the adjusted gross sports wagering receipts must be deposited in the Gambling Addiction Prevention and Treatment Fund established by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 20006-B. The remaining adjusted gross sports wagering receipts remitted to the State must be deposited in the General Fund.

The amendment also allows a licensed fantasy contest operator to offer a fantasy contest based on the performances of participants in collegiate athletic events and adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-319)

This amendment, which is one of two minority reports of the committee, strikes and replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. This amendment authorizes the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit to regulate sports wagering in the State through a regulatory framework identical to the framework set forth in the majority report, except that only licensed commercial tracks, licensed off-track betting facilities, licensed casinos and federally recognized Indian tribes are eligible to obtain mobile sports wagering licenses, not qualified gaming entities that offer sports wagering through mobile applications or digital platforms in any jurisdiction in the United States pursuant to a state regulatory structure.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 619 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine CARRIED OVER
Regarding Early Voting

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SCHNECK J LUCHINI L	OTP-AM ONTP	H-42

This resolution proposes to amend Article II, section 4 of the Constitution of Maine to allow the Legislature to authorize a process by which municipalities may conduct early voting by allowing voters to vote in the same manner as on election day during a period immediately preceding an election and to allow absentee voting for any sufficient reason. Compare LD 293.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-42)