

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

**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/>

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. LOUIS J. LUCHINI, CHAIR  
SEN. ERIN D. HERBIG  
SEN. SCOTT W. CYRWAY

REP. JOHN C. SCHNECK, CHAIR  
REP. JANICE E. COOPER  
REP. CRAIG V. HICKMAN  
REP. BRIAN L. HUBBELL  
REP. JOYCE "JAY" MCCREIGHT  
REP. SCOTT WALTER STROM  
REP. SHELDON MARK HANINGTON  
REP. JOHN ANDREWS  
REP. JOSANNE C. DOLLOFF  
REP. KENT ACKLEY

# STATE OF MAINE

129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



## 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*

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 79 authorizes agency liquor stores and off-premises retail licensees to conduct up to 15 taste-testing events per month of spirits, wine and malt liquor. Agency liquor stores and off-premises retail licensees are authorized, but not required, to submit a single request to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations listing all of the taste-testing events the agency liquor store or off-premises retail licensee plans to conduct in a single calendar month. Agency liquor stores and off-premises retail licensees may conduct taste testing of spirits, wine and malt liquor at the same taste-testing event, as long as the agency liquor store or off-premises retail licensee is licensed to sell the types of liquor being offered at the event. Public Law 2019, chapter 79 also makes several technical corrections to the terminology and cross-references in the agency liquor store and off-premises retail licensee taste-testing statutes.

Public Law 2019, chapter 79 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 8, 2019.

**LD 753      An Act To Allow Voters To Choose Ongoing Absentee Voter Status      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FECTEAU R DESCHAMBAULT S	ONTP	

This bill provides a process for a voter to request ongoing absentee voter status in a municipality that has approved the use of ongoing absentee voter status. Ongoing absentee voter status allows the voter to automatically receive an absentee ballot for each statewide and municipal election until the status is terminated by request of the voter, because an absentee ballot sent to the voter is returned as undeliverable, because the voter dies or is disqualified to vote or because the voter's registration record is designated as inactive or cancelled in the central voter registration system.

**LD 780      An Act To Change Municipal Campaign Contribution Limits      PUBLIC 51**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIPMAN B ACKLEY K	OTP-AM ONTP	S-21

This bill reduces from \$750 to \$350 the maximum allowable contribution that may be made to a candidate for municipal office for a single primary, general or special election by an individual or by a political committee, political action committee, other committee, firm, partnership, corporation, association or organization.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-21)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, reduces from \$750 to \$500 the maximum statutory allowable contribution for candidates for municipal office.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 51 reduces from \$750 to \$500 the maximum allowable contribution that may be made to a candidate for municipal office for a single primary, general or special election by an individual or by a political committee, political action committee, other committee, firm, partnership, corporation, association or organization.