

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

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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

LD 1026 Resolve, Directing the Secretary of State To Examine Best Practices in Elections

RESOLVE 48

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HUBBELL B BELLOWS S	OTP-AM ONTP	H-278

This bill requires the Secretary of State to:

1. Publish a guide to election procedures for public distribution and revise the guide annually to reflect current law, rules and procedures regarding elections;
2. Provide local election procedure and ballot reconciliation forms for local election officials to complete;
3. Develop an election complaint process;
4. Maintain automatic voter registration information and contract with a nonprofit corporation of member states to maintain the information;
5. Report to the Legislature on certain election issues within 12 months after a general election; and
6. Conduct a study of post-election audits and recounts.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-278)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill with a resolve directing the Secretary of State to conduct a study of post-election ballot audits and recounts. By December 6, 2023, the Secretary of State is directed to submit a report based upon the study to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over election matters. The joint standing committee may report out a bill based upon the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 48 directs the Secretary of State to conduct a study of post-election ballot audits and recounts. By December 6, 2023, the Secretary of State is directed to submit a report based upon the study to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over election matters. The joint standing committee may report out a bill based upon the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

LD 1068 An Act To Increase the Number of Agency Liquor Stores Permitted in Municipalities with 10,000 to 20,000 Residents

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GATTINE D SANBORN H	ONTP	

This bill allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to license up to six agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population of at least 10,001 but less than 20,001; current law allows such a municipality a maximum of five agency liquor stores.

The committee considered this bill in concert with LD 1020 and LD 1078, each of which also proposed to change the number of agency liquor stores allowed in each municipality. Ultimately, LD 1078 was enacted as Public Law 2019, chapter 74.