

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL AND SECOND REGULAR SESSIONS



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

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*Committee member for a portion of the session

STATE OF MAINE

129TH 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 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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208 that proposes to provide funding for additional case managers in the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services to provide information and assistance to veterans regarding the availability of benefits and services for veterans such as health care, home financing, property tax exemptions and income tax credits.

This bill, which had been voted but not yet reported out of committee, was carried over in committee to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.

LD 999 An Act To Allow Medical and Adult Use Marijuana Stores To Share a Common Space CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MIRAMANT D		

This bill was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill allows the use of a shared facility for retail sale of adult use marijuana and adult use marijuana products and sale of marijuana and marijuana products for medical use, as long as the adult use marijuana and adult use marijuana products are sold using a different cash register than that used for sales of marijuana and marijuana products for medical use.

This bill, which had been voted by the committee but not yet reported out, was carried over in committee for the second time to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.

LD 1081 An Act Regarding Smoking in Vehicles When a Minor Is Present PUBLIC 623

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CYRWAY S COSTAIN D	OTP-AM	S-425

This bill was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill expands the restrictions on where marijuana may be smoked to include:

1. Areas in which tobacco smoking is prohibited;
2. In a private residence or on private property when a person under 18 years of age is present; and
3. In a vehicle in which a person under 18 years of age is present.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-425)

This amendment changes the title of and replaces the bill. Under the motor vehicle laws, smoking in a motor vehicle by the operator or a passenger is prohibited when a person who has not attained 16 years of age is present in the motor vehicle. The amendment amends that prohibition to provide that smoking in a motor vehicle by the operator or a passenger is prohibited when a minor is present in the motor vehicle. Under the motor vehicle laws, "minor" is defined as a person who has not attained 18 years of age.

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 623 amends motor vehicle laws that prohibit smoking in a motor vehicle by the operator or a passenger is prohibited when a person who has not attained 16 years of age is present in the motor vehicle. Public Law 2019, chapter 623 amends that prohibition to provide that smoking in a motor vehicle by the operator or a passenger is prohibited when a minor is present in the motor vehicle. Under the motor vehicle laws, "minor" is defined as a person who has not attained 18 years of age.

LD 1083 An Act To Implement Ranked-choice Voting for Presidential Primary and General Elections in Maine

PUBLIC 539

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T WARREN C	OTP-AM ONTP OTP-AM	S-313

This bill was carried over in the Senate from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

In the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature, this bill was reported out of committee, passed to be enacted as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-313) in the House, tabled in the Senate, and ultimately carried over. The bill was subsequently passed to be enacted as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-313) in the Senate during the First Special Session. The bill was then held by the Governor and became law without signature at the beginning of the Second Regular Session.

This bill provides that, whenever the state committee of a qualified political party certifies that there is a contest among candidates for nomination as the presidential candidate of the party and that the committee has voted to conduct a presidential primary election, the State shall hold a presidential primary election on a date in March of the presidential election year chosen by the Secretary of State in consultation with the parties. Only voters who are enrolled in the party may vote in that party's presidential primary election. The votes cast in the presidential primary for each party must be tabulated according to the ranked-choice method of tabulating votes. The selection of delegates to the national presidential nominating convention for each party and allocation of those delegates among primary candidates must be in accordance with any reasonable procedures established at the state party convention.

This bill also requires the ballots cast for presidential electors during the general election to be tabulated according to the ranked-choice method of tabulating votes.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-313)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, strikes and replaces the bill. Under the amendment, general elections for presidential electors must be determined by ranked-choice voting. The amendment further provides that, if a law establishing a presidential primary election is enacted in the State, primary elections for the office of President of the United States must be determined by ranked-choice voting.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-314)

This amendment, which is one of two minority reports of the committee, strikes and replaces the bill. Under the amendment, general elections for presidential electors must be determined by ranked-choice voting if that method of conducting general elections for presidential electors is approved by the voters of the State at referendum.

This amendment was not adopted.