

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**

November 2020

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/>

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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

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.

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 539 provides that general elections for presidential electors must be determined by ranked-choice voting.

Public Law 2019, chapter 539 also provides that the votes cast at primary elections for the office of President of the United States must be tabulated by ranked-choice voting, although the selection and allocation of delegates to a party's national presidential nominating convention must be in accordance with any reasonable procedures established at the state party convention. The presidential primary provisions of Public Law 2019, chapter 539 were made contingent on enactment of a law adopting a presidential primary in the State, a contingency that was met through the enactment of Public Law 2019, chapter 445 (LD 1626) in the First Regular Session.

LD 1144 An Act To Authorize Tribal Gaming

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINGS B CARPENTER M		

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

This bill increases by 1,500 the number of slot machines that may be registered in the State and authorizes the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board to accept an application for a casino operator license from a joint tribal entity authorizing the joint tribal entity to operate table games and slot machines at one casino owned by the joint tribal entity. "Joint tribal entity" is defined as a legal entity formed for the purpose of operating slot machines and table games at one casino, the entire ownership of which is held equally, either jointly or in common, by the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the Aroostook Band of Micmacs and the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians.

The bill provides the following in regard to the casino.

1. It specifies that, as a condition of a joint tribal entity's receiving a license, a casino must be located:
 - A. On land that on January 1, 2019 was owned by the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the Aroostook Band of Micmacs or the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians or land held in trust by the United States or by any other person or entity for the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the Aroostook Band of Micmacs or the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians;
 - B. On land located in the unorganized territory; or
 - C. On land in a municipality and that municipality approves of the operation of the casino in that municipality, either by vote of its legislative body or in a referendum of the voters of the municipality.
2. It exempts a casino licensed to a joint tribal entity from the provision in current law that prohibits a new casino or slot machine facility from being located within 100 miles of an existing casino or slot machine facility. It provides that a casino licensed to a joint tribal entity may not be located within 50 miles of an existing facility.
3. It provides that a change in the composition of a joint tribal entity does not invalidate a casino license issued to the entity as long as the change occurs no sooner than six months after the license is issued and the entity still consists of at least two federally recognized Indian tribes in the State who own equal shares of the entity in its