

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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

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# STATE OF MAINE

129<sup>TH</sup> 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 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*

**LD 1196 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Implement Ranked-choice Voting ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHENETTE J FECTEAU R	ONTP	

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require candidates for the political offices of Governor, State Senator and State Representative to be elected by a majority of the votes cast for that office. See also LD 1477.

**LD 1213 An Act To Repeal the Ranked-choice Voting Law Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STETKIS J GUERIN S	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill repeals the laws governing ranked-choice voting.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-232)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 1226 An Act To Make Criteria for State Veterans' Benefits Consistent within the Maine Revised Statutes ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BAILEY D CARPENTER M	ONTP	

This bill revises language in the Maine Revised Statutes regarding eligibility for veterans' benefits to make that language consistent throughout the statutes.

**LD 1244 An Act To Authorize the Gambling Control Board To Accept an Application from the Passamaquoddy Tribe To Operate 50 Slot Machines in the Tribe's High-stakes Beano Facility CARRIED OVER**

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

This bill authorizes the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board to accept an application from the Passamaquoddy Tribe to operate 50 slot machines at a gambling facility in Washington County at which high-stakes beano is conducted by the Passamaquoddy Tribe. The bill raises the limit on the number of slot machines allowed in the State by 50 to accommodate the slot machines that may be operated by the Passamaquoddy Tribe. The bill

***Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs***

requires deposit of 25% of net slot machine income in the General Fund and sets the initial application fee to operate the 50 slot machines at \$10,000 and the renewal fee at \$5,000. The Passamaquoddy Tribe is exempted from paying a \$250,000 nonrefundable privilege fee and a \$5,000,000 license fee. Slot machines operated by the Passamaquoddy Tribe would be subject to the oversight of the Gambling Control Board and subject to the same laws and rules as other slot machines operated in this State.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

**LD 1255      RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine      Accepted Majority  
To Require Referenda To Receive 60 Percent of the Vote To Become Law      (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MORRIS J	ONTP OTP-AM	

This resolution proposes to amend Article IV, part 3, section 18 of the Constitution of Maine to require that a direct initiative of legislation or a competing measure receive at least 60% of the votes cast to become law.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-172)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 1268      An Act To Update and Clarify the Laws Governing Raffles      PUBLIC 129**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CYRWAY S NADEAU C	OTP-AM	S-67

This bill amends the law governing raffles for certain nonprofit organizations in the following ways:

1. Increasing the amount of total value of all prizes for which the nonprofit organization is not required to register the raffle with the Gambling Control Unit from \$2,500 to \$10,000;
2. Allowing noncash raffle prizes, which have a maximum value of \$75,000, to be exchanged for a cash prize of up to \$20,000;
3. Removing the limitation allowing only one raffle with a noncash prize of up to \$75,000 or a cash prize of up to \$20,000 in a 12-month period; and
4. Clarifying that the nonprofit organization may conduct more than one raffle at a time.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-67)**

This amendment clarifies that certain nonprofit organizations, which may register with the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit to conduct raffles with noncash prizes that do not exceed \$75,000 in value or raffles with cash prizes that do not exceed \$20,000 in value, may conduct only one of these registered noncash prize raffles and one of these registered cash prize raffles at the same time. The amendment eliminates the portion of the bill that allows nonprofit organizations to exchange the prizes awarded in a noncash prize raffle for cash prizes.