

# 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 1545 An Act Regarding the Testing of Adult Use Marijuana and Marijuana Products**

**CARRIED OVER**

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

This bill amends the provisions regarding the testing of adult use marijuana and adult use marijuana products by:

1. Requiring that any testing conform to any applicable state or federal process, protocol or standard for the testing of tobacco; and
2. Providing that if a testing facility does not test adult use marijuana or an adult use marijuana product within five days of receiving the marijuana or marijuana product from a licensee, the licensee may sell or distribute the marijuana or marijuana product if the marijuana or marijuana product is labeled "Untested." If upon testing a testing facility determines that the marijuana or marijuana product exceeds the maximum level of allowable contamination for any contaminant that is injurious to health and for which testing is required, the testing facility is required to immediately notify the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the licensee. The licensee is required to recover, document, quarantine and hold the marijuana or marijuana product for either remediation and retesting or destruction by the department.

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

**LD 1565 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Protect Voter-approved Measures**

**ONTP**

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

This resolution proposes amending the Constitution of Maine as follows:

1. To allow the Legislature to establish a process for the review of a direct initiative before petition forms are furnished or approved by the Secretary of State; and
2. To allow the Legislature to change a direct initiative after it is approved by the voters at referendum if the change clarifies or further advances the original intent of the direct initiative. Any change made by the Legislature less than a year after the effective date of the initiative that frustrates the effectuation or implementation of the direct initiative does not go into effect until submitted to the voters at referendum and approved by a majority of those voting on the question.

**LD 1570 An Act To Allow Residents To Register Online To Vote**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ACKLEY K	ONTP	

This bill allows online applications for voter registration by eligible residents of the State through the Secretary of

*Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs*

State's publicly accessible website.

**LD 1571 An Act To Establish the Exclusive Right of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribes in the State To Conduct All Sports Betting in Maine**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINGS B JACKSON T	ONTP	

This bill authorizes the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board to issue licenses to federally recognized Indian tribes to operate online sports pools. A tribe that is licensed by the board may enter into a written contract, approved by the board, with a licensed online sports pool vendor to operate the online sports pool on behalf of the tribe. Under the bill, an online sports pool is described as a device or system established for the acceptance of wagers on a sports event by any system or method of wagering in which the wagers are made via electronic device and transmitted by any means that involves the use, at least in part, of the Internet.

Online sports pool operators may accept wagers on all professional or amateur sports events except high school sports events or other events in which a majority of the participants are minors. Online sports pool operators may not accept wagers from persons whose identity they cannot verify; persons under 21 years of age; the director, officers and employees of the online sports pool operator and relatives living in the same household as those persons; athletes, coaches, referees and umpires participating in the sports event; other interested persons if the sports event upon which the wager is placed is overseen by the person's league or sports governing body; persons with confidential information that could affect the outcome of the sports event; persons who voluntarily request to be prohibited from making online sports wagers; and persons who make wagers on behalf of another person.

The bill requires the board to adopt rules regulating the operation of online sports pools, including rules restricting the types of wagers permitted, establishing the maximum wagers that may be accepted from any one person on a single sports event, imposing requirements for servers and other equipment used to operate the online sports pool, establishing methods for verifying the identity and age of persons placing wagers online and prohibiting the acceptance of wagers from outside the State as required by federal law.

The bill further requires that 1% of net online sports pool income be used for administrative expenses of the board and that 10% of net online sports pool income be distributed to the Treasurer of State to be credited to the Department of Education for essential programs and services for kindergarten to grade 12.

Finally, the bill provides that the laws governing unlawful gambling and games of chance do not apply to online sports pool operators that comply with the laws governing online sports pools.

Selected portions of this bill were incorporated in the committee amendments to LD 553.

**LD 1583 An Act To Enact the Maine Citizens' Initiatives Clean Election Act**

**Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

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

This bill establishes the Maine Citizens' Initiatives Clean Election Act. It provides a public financing mechanism for committees that are Maine-chartered nonprofits or groups whose principal officers are Maine citizens and are formed to support or oppose a direct initiative of legislation or a people's veto or to support a competing measure to