

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

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

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

a direct initiative of legislation. The funding process is similar to that provided for clean election candidates under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, chapter 14. It provides for limits on the amount of funds that committees seeking public funding may raise and spend prior to qualifying for public funding and the amount of qualifying contributions that a committee must raise to be certified to receive public funding, and it establishes the amounts that certified committees may receive. It also establishes procedures governing financial reporting and accounting, appeals of decisions, penalties for violations and other procedural matters to ensure the integrity of the process. In addition to other available funds, including qualifying contributions raised by committees and voluntary contributions through a tax checkoff program, funding for certified committees is provided by an annual appropriation of \$3,000,000.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-318)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, makes technical changes to the Maine Citizens' Initiatives Clean Election Act established in the bill. The amendment clarifies that a ballot question committee that wishes to participate in the Act and that supports a direct initiative or people's veto may, in addition to collecting seed money contributions, collect a limited amount of contributions and make a limited amount of expenditures specifically for the purposes of gathering signatures on the ballot question petition. The amendment clarifies that a ballot question committee that wishes to participate in the Act may be involved in collecting signatures for only one ballot question at a time and may not expend any revenues distributed from the Maine Citizens' Initiatives Clean Election Fund on signature-gathering activities.

The amendment further provides that the qualifying period, during which ballot question committees may collect qualifying contributions for certification under the Act, commences for all committees on the date that an application to initiate proceedings for a direct initiative or people's veto is filed with the Secretary of State under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, section 901.

The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1619 An Act Regarding Licenses for the Sale of Liquor for On-premises Consumption

**PUBLIC 167
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LUCHINI L	OTP-AM	S-92

This bill gives a municipality the option of conditioning its approval of a particular Class X liquor license issued to a Class A lounge on the exclusion of a type of liquor from sale by the licensee.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-92)

This amendment clarifies that a municipality may impose a condition limiting the types of liquor that may be sold for consumption on the premises of a particular Class X licensee when the municipality considers an application for a new or a renewed Class X license under the process established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-A, section 653.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 167 authorizes a municipality to impose a condition limiting the types of liquor that may be sold for consumption on the premises of a particular Class A lounge when the municipality considers the lounge's application for a new or a renewed Class X license under the process established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-A, section 653.