

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**

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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

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1642 An Act Regarding the Regulation of Sports Wagering

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT M	ONTP	

This bill authorizes sports wagering regulated by the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit. The bill requires a person or entity offering sports wagering to hold an operator license. A gaming entity that offers sports wagering through mobile applications or digital platforms in any jurisdiction in the United States pursuant to a state regulatory structure and that meets certain requirements is eligible to receive an operator license. An operator license authorizes the operation of sports wagering through a mobile application or digital platform approved by the Gambling Control Unit. For the privilege of holding a license to operate sports wagering, the bill levies a tax of 10% of the licensee's adjusted gross sports wagering receipts from the operation of sports wagering. The bill allows the director of the Gambling Control Unit to enter into a sports wagering agreement between the director and one or more other governments whereby persons who are physically located in a signatory jurisdiction may participate in sports wagering conducted by one or more operators licensed by the signatory governments. The bill also allows a fantasy contest operator to offer a fantasy contest based on the performances of participants in collegiate athletic events.

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

LD 1656 An Act To Provide for the Regulation of Sports Wagering

ONTP

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

This bill authorizes sports wagering regulated by the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit. The bill requires a person or entity involved in sports wagering to hold a facility license, supplier license, management services license, mobile sports wagering license or occupational license. To be eligible to receive a facility license, a person or entity must also hold a license, or in the case of a beano operator, hold a license or be registered, as a commercial track, off-track betting facility, slot machine facility, casino or beano operator. A mobile sports wagering license authorizes the operation of sports wagering through a mobile application or digital platform approved by the Gambling Control Unit. For the privilege of holding a mobile sports wagering license or a facility license to operate sports wagering, the bill levies a tax of 10% of the licensee's adjusted gross sports wagering receipts from the operation of sports wagering. The bill allows a fantasy contest operator to offer a fantasy contest based on the performances of participants in collegiate athletic events.

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

LD 1657 An Act To Regulate Sports Wagering

ONTP

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

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

This bill authorizes the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board to regulate, supervise and exercise general control over sports wagering in the State. The bill authorizes the board to issue licenses to casinos, commercial tracks, off-track betting facilities and high-stakes beano facilities to conduct sports wagering. A licensee may either directly operate a sports wagering business or enter a written contract, approved by the board, with a licensed management services provider to conduct sports wagering on its behalf.

The bill directs the board to adopt rules governing the conduct of sports wagering, including rules defining permitted systems and methods of wagering on sports events, the adoption and posting of comprehensive house rules in every facility where sports wagers are accepted and on every electronic platform through which sports wagers are made, minimum design and security requirements for sports wagering facilities and electronic platforms and minimum internal control standards for the financial aspects of sports wagering operations.

The bill prohibits sports wagering operators, including management services providers, from accepting wagers on high school and minor league sports events as well as collegiate sports events in which any Maine college team participates. The bill also prohibits sports wagering operators from accepting wagers on a sports event from a person under 21 years of age, an athlete or official who participates in the sports event, an employee or owner of a team that is participating in the sports event, an employee of the sports wagering operator, the board or the Gambling Control Unit within the Department of Public Safety and a person who is on a list established by the board of persons prohibited from placing wagers on sports events.

The bill requires distribution of 5% of net sports wagering revenue to the General Fund. An additional 5% of net sports wagering revenue must be collected and distributed to support licensed commercial tracks, licensed off-track betting facilities, the Sire Stakes Fund, the Agricultural Fair Support Fund and the fund to supplement harness racing purses.

Finally, the bill provides that the laws governing unlawful gambling and games of chance do not apply to sports wagering operations that comply with the laws governing sports wagering.

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

LD 1663 An Act To Clarify Ranked-choice Voting Laws

PUBLIC 320

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LUCHINI L SCHNECK J	OTP-AM ONTP	S-194

This bill, which was submitted by the Secretary of State pursuant to Joint Rule 204, makes the following changes to the laws governing ranked-choice voting.

1. It clarifies that "elections determined by ranked-choice voting" only occur when there are three or more candidates for an office.
2. It requires that ranked-choice contests be grouped together on the ballot and separated from non-ranked-choice contests either on one side of a ballot or on a separate ballot and requires that the ballot contain separate voting instructions above the first ranked-choice contest, the first non-ranked-choice contest and the first referendum question.
3. It provides that a voter may only include a write-in candidate on the ballot for a ranked-choice contest if that candidate is a declared write-in candidate.
4. It allows the Secretary of State to create a separate voter instruction poster for ranked-choice voting.