

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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/>

MEMBERS:

SEN. LOUIS J. LUCHINI, CHAIR
SEN. ERIN D. HERBIG
SEN. SCOTT W. CYRWAY

REP. JOHN C. SCHNECK, CHAIR
REP. JANICE E. COOPER
REP. CRAIG V. HICKMAN
REP. BRIAN L. HUBBELL*
REP. JOYCE "JAY" MCCREIGHT
REP. KEVIN O'CONNELL*
REP. SCOTT WALTER STROM
REP. SHELDON MARK HANINGTON
REP. JOHN ANDREWS
REP. JOSANNE C. DOLLOFF
REP. KENT ACKLEY

*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.

LD 1988

An Act To Prohibit the Distribution of Deceptive Images or Audio or Video Recordings with the Intent To Influence the Outcome of an Election

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLETT R FECTEAUR		

This bill, which is based on a recently enacted California law, prohibits a person from publishing or distributing, with actual malice and within 60 days of the date of an election, materially deceptive audio or visual media of a candidate who will appear on the ballot with the intent to injure the candidate's reputation or to deceive a voter into voting for or against the candidate. The bill defines "materially deceptive audio or visual media" as an image or an audio or video recording of a candidate that has been intentionally manipulated in a way that would cause a reasonable person to mistakenly believe that the image or recording is authentic and that would cause the person to have a fundamentally different understanding or impression of the content of the image or recording than the person would have if the image or recording was unaltered. An image or audio or video recording that constitutes satire or parody is not considered materially deceptive audio or visual media. The bill authorizes a candidate whose voice or image appears in materially deceptive audio or visual media to bring a civil action seeking injunctive relief or monetary damages. In such an action, the candidate bears the burden of proving the violation by clear and convincing evidence.

The bill's prohibition against the distribution of materially deceptive audio or visual media does not apply if the materially deceptive audio or visual media is accompanied by a disclosure indicating that the image or audio or video recording has been manipulated; distributed as part of a news broadcast that includes a clear statement that there are questions about the authenticity of the image or audio or video recording; broadcast by a radio or television broadcasting station that has been paid to broadcast the materially deceptive audio or visual media; or published by an Internet website or regularly published newspaper, magazine or other periodical, as long as the materially deceptive audio or visual media is accompanied by a statement that it does not accurately represent the speech or conduct of the candidate.

This bill, which had not yet been voted by the committee, was carried over in committee to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.

LD 1997

An Act To Allow the Assignment of State Vehicles to Field Personnel Directly Concerned with Maine National Guard Facilities and To Allow State Vehicles Assigned to Military Bureau Employees To Be Used for Commuting

PUBLIC 578

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LUCHINIL	OTP-AM	S-380

This bill, submitted by the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, allows the assignment of state vehicles to field personnel directly concerned with the maintenance and operation of Maine National Guard facilities who are frequently called for emergency duty outside of regular hours. It also allows Military Bureau employees designated by the Commissioner of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to use state vehicles to commute between home and work.