

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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/>

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*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.

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at the separate licensed location include, when the licensed Maine manufacturer is a brewery or a small brewery, malt liquor packaged in refillable containers, commonly referred to as growlers. Under current law, a brewery or small brewery may sell growlers at its one licensed establishment for on-premises sales only if that on-premises establishment is located at the brewery or small brewery.

I. It resolves a conflict in current law and conforms the law to current practice by specifying that, when a small distillery serves samples of its products at its manufacturing facility, it need not first send those products through the State's spirits warehouse and distribution system.

J. It clarifies an ambiguity in the law by explicitly stating that a licensed Maine small winery, which may under current law obtain licenses to conduct off-premises retail sales at up to two additional locations other than the manufacturing facility, must pay a \$50 license fee for each of those additional locations. It similarly clarifies that a licensed small distillery, which may under current law also obtain licenses to conduct off-premises retail sales at up to two additional locations other than the manufacturing facility, must pay a \$100 license fee for each of those additional locations.

K. It corrects an omission in the law and matches current practice by specifying that a tenant brewery or tenant winery seeking licensure may pay the reduced license fee for a small brewery or small winery if it qualifies as a small brewery or small winery. Otherwise, the tenant brewery or tenant winery must pay the higher brewery or winery license fee.

23. It reorganizes, clarifies and removes inconsistencies in the laws governing the importation of liquor into and the transportation of liquor within the State. It also changes the units of measurement applicable to spirits and wine in these provisions from quarts and gallons to liters, which is the unit of measurement typically used when referring to spirits and wine products, and it changes the unit of measurement applicable to malt liquor from gallons to fluid ounces, which is the unit of measurement typically used when referring to malt liquor products.

24. It corrects scattered typographical, cross-reference and drafting errors in the Title, including by removing all gendered pronouns as required by Public Law 2019, chapter 475, section 52.

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 2136

An Act To Prohibit Contributions, Expenditures and Participation by Foreign Nationals To Influence Referenda

CARRIED OVER

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

This bill provides that a foreign national may not:

1. Make, directly or indirectly, a contribution of money or anything of value to influence a referendum;
2. Make, directly or indirectly, an expenditure to influence a referendum; or
3. Direct, dictate, control or directly or indirectly participate in the decision-making process of any person with regard to that person's activities to influence a referendum, such as decisions concerning the making of contributions or expenditures to influence a referendum.

It also provides that a person may not solicit, accept or receive a contribution to influence a referendum from a

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foreign national.

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 2145 An Act To Help Veterans Access Jobs, Education, Health Care and Housing and Provide General Support to Veterans

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARPENTER M MAXMIN C		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208 that proposes to establish a bill of rights to help veterans access jobs, education, health care and housing and provide general support to veterans.

1. The bill would help veterans access jobs by:

- A. Requiring the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to waive licensing fees for veterans;
- B. Requiring licensing boards affiliated with the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to waive licensing fees for veterans;
- C. Expanding eligibility of veterans and their spouses for the program that helps veterans and their spouses obtain occupational licenses;
- D. Requiring each board, commission, office and agency within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation or affiliated with the department to permit a veteran or spouse who holds a comparable license in another state to acquire a license by endorsement in this State for the remainder of the term of the license from the other state or until a license is obtained in this State or obtain a temporary license in this State for the period of time necessary to obtain a license in this State;
- E. Requiring each board, commission, office and agency within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation or affiliated with the department to grant a full or partial exemption from continuing education requirements for a veteran or spouse;
- F. Obtaining information regarding the implementation of the process established to help qualified veterans and their spouses to obtain occupational licenses, including data concerning how many veterans and their spouses have received assistance;
- G. Extending renewal dates for occupational licenses for veterans and their spouses;
- H. Waiving fees for licensing veterans as emergency medical services persons and security guards;
- I. Extending the period of time allowed between the completion of military service and the favorable treatment of that military service for purposes of occupational licensing; and
- J. Allowing all veterans to purchase credit for time served in the military for purposes of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

2. The bill would help veterans access education by: