

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
130<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS  
AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

December 2021

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signature. An applicant who submits the last four digits of the applicant's social security number instead of a driver's license or nondriver identification card number must include an electronic image of the applicant's signature with the applicant's online voter registration application. The deadline for receipt of online voter registration applications is midnight on the 21st day before election day.

Public Law 2021, chapter 439 also directs the Secretary of State to allow previously registered voters to use the online voter registration application beginning November 1, 2023 to:

1. Notify the appropriate registrar of voters of the voter's new name or address when the voter's name is changed by marriage or other process of law or when the voter has moved within a municipality; and
2. Enroll in or withdraw from a political party or change the voter's party enrollment.

### **LD 1242 An Act To Amend the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 387 makes the following changes to the laws governing the medical use of marijuana.

1. It changes the designation of rules governing the medical use of marijuana from routine technical to major substantive beginning July 1, 2021.
2. It provides that the Department of Administrative and Financial Services' rules governing the medical use of marijuana are those that were in effect on February 28, 2021.
3. It requires that before provisionally adopting new rules, including but not limited to rules necessary to implement a statewide electronic portal through which registered caregivers, registered dispensaries, marijuana testing facilities and manufacturing facilities may submit certain records, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services must:
  - A. Develop a process to consult with caregivers, registered caregivers, qualifying patients and medical providers with significant knowledge and experience certifying patients under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act, in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 2422-A, subsection 2;
  - B. Develop a process to use when hiring consultants to advise on any new rules or proposed changes to existing rules governing the medical use of marijuana, in accordance with Title 22, section 2422-A, subsection 2; and
  - C. Using existing resources, conduct a study evaluating the economic effects that any new rules or proposed changes to existing rules may have, including but not limited to, the

#### ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

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effects of implementing a statewide electronic portal on caregiver businesses of all sizes and how such rules could affect the access of patients to marijuana for medical use.

The department must submit a report including the processes developed and the findings evaluated to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over medical use of marijuana matters no later than January 15, 2022. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over medical use of marijuana matters is authorized to introduce legislation for presentation to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature based on the information provided in the report.

4. It eliminates the requirement that a registered caregiver, a registered dispensary, a marijuana testing facility and a manufacturing facility complete an annual audit conducted by a third party of business transactions.

Public Law 2021, chapter 387 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 1, 2021.

### **LD 1272 An Act To Eliminate Limits on the Number of Taste-testing Events for Beer, Wine and Spirits**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 131 removes the limitation on the number of taste-testing events that licensed off-premises retailers of spirits, wine or malt liquor may conduct each month.

### **LD 1363 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Elections**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 273 makes the following changes to the laws governing elections.

1. It repeals and replaces the definition of “elections determined by ranked-choice voting” to remove a conflict in the law created by the enactment of Public Law 2019, chapter 320, section 1 and Public Law 2019, chapter 539, sections 1 and 2.
2. It implements Constitutional Resolution 2019, chapter 1 by allowing a voter who has an alternative registration signature statement on file with the municipal registrar to authorize another registered Maine voter to sign a petition for a citizen’s initiative or for a people’s veto referendum on the voter’s behalf.
3. It amends the laws governing automatic voter registration to clarify that the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles must record but need not scan documentation providing proof of voter eligibility when creating a pending voter registration record and to authorize the bureau to create pending voter registration records for individuals who appear at

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES**

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