

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS
AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

July 2022

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which these committees submit their campaign finance reports may categorize ballot question committees as a subcategory of political action committees.

LD 1779 An Act To Protect Election Integrity by Regulating Possession of Ballots and Voting Machines and Devices

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 536 makes the following changes to the election laws.

1. It requires the municipal clerk to retain possession, custody and control over sealed containers of state election materials, municipal election materials and unused ballots until the contents of the containers are destroyed in accordance with law, except that the municipal clerk may open or transfer the contents of the containers when the opening or transfer is expressly authorized by state law or rule or by federal law.
2. If a municipal clerk or the Secretary of State produces original ballots in response to a request for inspection by the Governor, either branch of the Legislature, a legislative committee or a court, it requires the requester to maintain sole custody of the ballots until they are returned to the municipal clerk or Secretary of State and requires the municipal clerk, the Secretary of State or the Secretary of State's designee to oversee the ballot inspection process.
3. It prohibits a municipal clerk from transferring possession, custody or control of a voting machine or voting device unless the transfer is expressly authorized by the Secretary of State.

LD 1782 An Act Regarding Contributing to Candidates and Political Action Committees

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 607 amends the State's campaign finance laws by making the following changes, effective January 1, 2023, to the provisions of Public Law 2021, chapter 274, which also take effect January 1, 2023.

1. It authorizes a ballot question committee to make contributions to a candidate or a leadership political action committee to the same extent that an individual, a party committee or a political action committee may make contributions to a candidate or a leadership political action committee. Funds contributed to a candidate or a leadership political action committee by a party committee, political action committee or a ballot question committee may not derive, in whole or in part, from a business entity.
2. It provides for a biennial adjustment, based on the Consumer Price Index, of the aggregate amount that an individual may make to a separate segregated fund committee in a calendar year.

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3. It authorizes a corporation, membership organization, cooperative or labor or other organization that has established a separate segregated fund committee to make in-kind contributions of the paid staff time of its employees and independent contractors to establish the separate segregated fund committee and to provide fundraising and administrative services to that committee.

LD 1784 An Act To Ensure Legislative Review of Rules for Maine’s Medical Use of Marijuana Act

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 652 requires that, notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072, subsection 11 or any other provision of law to the contrary, major substantive rules that are provisionally adopted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of marijuana policy relating to the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act and submitted for legislative review may not be finally adopted by the department unless legislation authorizing final adoption of those rules is enacted into law and includes a repeal date of November 1, 2025 for that provision.

Public Law 2021, chapter 652 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 23, 2022.

LD 1817 An Act To Allow the State’s Adult Use Marijuana Tracking System To Track Plants and Products by Group

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 628 does the following.

1. It requires the adult use marijuana tracking system to allow for marijuana plants to be tracked as a group and allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to implement a tracking system to allow marijuana and marijuana products to be tracked as a group.
2. It designates how marijuana plants may be grouped for the purpose of tracking.
3. It specifies tracking tag requirements and restrictions for marijuana plants tracked as a group.
4. It requires a manifest to be provided upon transfer when tracking marijuana plants as a group.
5. It directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of marijuana policy to conduct a review of the adult use marijuana tracking requirements and evaluate whether the current tracking system implemented by the department includes the functionality necessary to track marijuana plants, adult use marijuana and adult use marijuana products from immature marijuana plants to the point of retail sale, disposal or destruction. The department is also required to review relevant feedback it has previously received regarding the tracking system