

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSION



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

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

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILLS AND  
SUMMARIES OF ENACTED LAWS**

This *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* provides the disposition of all LDs and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular and First Special Sessions of the 131st Maine Legislature. Please note that all LDs and proposed amendments may be found through the Legislature's webpage, and each includes a summary of what the bill or amendment proposed.

The *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* is arranged alphabetically by committee. Within each committee section is a subject index of all LDs considered by that committee as well as a digest of the LDs, arranged by LD number. Also included are enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed. Brief analyst notes on certain LDs are also included: a committee digest will indicate if additional notes are provided for an LD. These notes add information staff found useful and may provide useful information to users of this *Digest*; please note that most LDs do not have a note and lack of a note should not be interpreted as having any significance. A separate section of the *Digest* provides a digest of the relatively few LDs that were not referred to a committee or reported from a committee as a committee bill; enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed are provided. Finally, an appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

The final disposition of each LD is noted in the relevant summary digest and index. 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 and First Special Sessions of the 131st Legislature is Thursday, June 29, 2023 and Wednesday, October 25, 2023, respectively. 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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5. It establishes the criteria for the suspension or revocation of a permit for a cannabis store to conduct sales at a specified event.
6. It provides criteria for the Department of Administrative and Financial Services' approval or denial of a permit application for cannabis stores to conduct sales at a specified event.
7. It repeals the department's rule-making authority regarding specified events which is provided for under the department's general rule-making authority under this chapter.
8. It amends the requirement that the department issue guidance documents to cannabis stores.

### **LD 230 Resolve, to Require the Maine National Guard to Sell Certain Property in Hallowell**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 45 requires the Adjutant General to sell a parcel of land to the City of Hallowell, by June 30, 2024, for \$40,000 to be paid by the city in 10 equal annual installments. The sale price is less than the appraised value because the appraisal did not account for upkeep to the property made by the city over several years and assumed the highest and best use of the property for residential development. The city plans to use this property for public recreational purposes.

### **LD 233 An Act to Ensure Efficiency in the Review of Petitions by the Secretary of State by Clarifying Deadlines Related to Those Petitions**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 342 requires the Secretary of State to determine the validity of certain petitions within 30 business days of the date of filing of the petition, except for petitions that are filed in an even-numbered general election year within 30 calendar days before or 30 calendar days after the general election. In those cases, the Secretary of State is required to determine the validity within 30 business days after the 30th calendar day following the general election.

### **LD 247 An Act Regarding Replacement Candidates Under the Maine Clean Election Act**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 211 establishes the beginning of the qualifying period for any replacement candidate who wishes to qualify as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate as when the Secretary of State receives a notice of withdrawal or declares a vacancy, whichever occurs first. It requires the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to establish, by routine technical rule, a procedure to establish the end date for the qualifying period for a replacement candidate. It also requires the commission to establish, by routine technical rule, procedures for

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certification, disbursement of Maine Clean Election Fund revenues and return of unspent fund revenues for races involving vacancies, withdrawals or replacement candidates. The rules must provide that qualifying contributions collected by a replacement candidate may not be deposited into the Maine Clean Election Fund until the replacement candidate is nominated and that if the replacement candidate is not officially nominated, the commission must return the qualifying contributions to the contributors, unless the contributor authorizes the deposit of the qualifying contribution into the fund.

### **LD 255 An Act Regarding Campaign Finance Reports**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 273 changes the election law that requires all candidates for state or county office other than Governor to file a campaign finance report on the 42nd day before a general election to instead require the report to be filed on the 42nd day before any election. A municipal candidate must file a report 42 days before an election only if required by the candidate's municipality. A candidate participating in the Maine Clean Election Act program is exempt from the requirement to file a report on the 42nd day before a primary election.

### **LD 311 An Act to Delay the Repeal of the Law Governing the Sale of Pari-Mutuel Pools for Simulcast Harness Racing**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 51 delays the repeal of the law governing the sale of pari-mutuel pools and common pari-mutuel pools for simulcast races from January 1, 2024 to January 1, 2026.

Public Law 2023, chapter 51 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 8, 2023.

### **LD 391 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 2: Hearing Procedures and Portions of Chapter 3: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions, Major Substantive Rules of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 21 authorizes final adoption of portions of rule Chapter 2: Hearing Procedures and portions of rule Chapter 3: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions, major substantive rules of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices, subject to the removal of the changes in rule Chapter 3 governing when the qualifying period for replacement candidates begins and ends.

Resolve 2023, chapter 21 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 1, 2023.