

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
131ST 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**

October 2023

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STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
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**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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LD 764 An Act to Ensure That Effective Dates of First Special Session Direct Initiatives of Legislation Will Occur After the November 2023 Election

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 401 provides that direct initiatives of legislation pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IV, Part Third, Section 18 and identified as L.D. 1610, "An Act to Prohibit Campaign Spending by Foreign Governments and Promote an Anticorruption Amendment to the United States Constitution," L.D. 1611, "An Act to Create the Pine Tree Power Company, a Nonprofit, Customer-owned Utility," and L.D. 1772, "An Act to Require Voter Approval of Certain Borrowing by Government-controlled Entities and Utilities and to Provide Voters More Information Regarding That Borrowing," if enacted during the First Special Session of the 131st Legislature, have an effective date of January 1, 2024, unless the direct initiative provides for an effective date later than January 1, 2024.

Public Law 2023, chapter 401 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 9, 2023.

LD 769 An Act to Reduce the Enrollment Requirement for Minor Political Parties That Seek Official Party Status

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 400 reduces from 10,000 to 5,000 the minimum number of voters required to be enrolled in a party for the party to qualify to participate in an election.

LD 832 An Act to Sustain the Medical Use of Cannabis Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 365 makes the following changes to provisions in the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act.

1. It amends the rulemaking authority of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy.
2. It amends the rulemaking process the Office of Cannabis Policy must employ when adopting or amending rules under the Act.
3. It amends the required content of a registry identification card.
4. It amends the revenue generated by application and renewal fees.

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5. It amends the identification necessary to constitute evidence of lawful conduct in the possession or use of cannabis for medical purposes and for defense to prosecution for possession or use of cannabis.
6. It clarifies the method to calculate cannabis weight.
7. It amends the penalties the Office of Cannabis Policy may impose for different violations of the Act and rules adopted pursuant to the Act.
8. It clarifies the applicability of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act to the Office of Cannabis Policy's imposition of penalties under the Act.
9. It clarifies the reporting, record-keeping and labeling requirements.
10. It clarifies the inspection process.
11. It clarifies the process for the surrender and destruction of cannabis plants, cannabis or cannabis products.
12. It amends the Office of Cannabis Policy's reporting obligation.

LD 846 An Act to Require Direct Wine Shippers to Comply with Maine Beverage Container Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 252 requires wine shipped by direct wine shippers to comply with Maine beverage container laws beginning July 1, 2025.

LD 879 An Act to Place Restrictions on Candidate Speech and Clothing, Buttons and Other Items at Voting Places

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 109 allows a candidate, or no more than one representative of a candidate, at a voting place, to greet a voter if the candidate or representative of the candidate does not state the name of the office that the candidate is seeking in that election year or wear any button, name tag, apparel or label or have or use any item or sign displaying the candidate's name or the name of the office the candidate is seeking or otherwise express support for or opposition to a party, a candidate or a ballot question.