

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

June 2024

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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 Second Regular Session 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 Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature is Friday, August 9, 2024. 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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Part E adopts three major substantive rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy, with certain changes.

1. It adopts Chapter 10: Rules for the Administration of the Adult Use Cannabis Program.
2. It adopts Chapter 20: Rules for the Licensure of Adult Use Cannabis Establishments.
3. It adopts Chapter 30: Compliance Rules for Adult Use Cannabis Establishments.

Part E specifies that the office is not required to hold hearings or undertake further proceedings prior to final adoption of any of the rules authorized in this legislation.

Part E requires the office to submit, by December 15, 2024, a copy of each finally adopted rule to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over cannabis matters and to clearly indicate any differences between each provisionally adopted and finally adopted rule. The committee may report out legislation related to the rules to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

LD 355 An Act to Eliminate the Cannabis Advisory Commission

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 650 eliminates the Cannabis Advisory Commission established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-B, chapter 1, subchapter 9.

LD 504 An Act Regarding Licensing Fees for Small Slot Machine Distributors

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 655 sets the initial application fee for a slot machine distributor that applies to distribute fewer than 50 slot machines per location annually at \$50,000 and the annual renewal fee for those distributors at \$10,000.

LD 833 An Act to Establish Separate Inauguration and Transition Committees for a Governor-elect and to Limit Donations to Each

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 573 establishes separate committees for a Governor-elect's inauguration and for the transition to office of a Governor-elect and prohibits the commingling of any donations received by one committee with donations received by the other committee. It limits a person's donation to each committee to no more in aggregate than the amount an individual may contribute to a gubernatorial candidate under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, section 1015,

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subsection 1. It also authorizes the transfer of funds from the Governor-elect's Expense Account to a committee established for the purpose of financing costs related to the transition to office of a Governor-elect.

LD 1517 An Act to Establish the Social Equity Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 683 establishes a social equity program within the Department of Economic and Community Development to increase workforce development programs and provide support to individuals who are members of impacted communities and businesses that are owned by members of impacted communities. It defines "impacted communities" to mean racial, ethnic or tribal populations that have experienced incarceration at rates disproportionate to the racial, ethnic or tribal populations' rate of criminality starting in or about the year 1971 and as a result the racial, ethnic or tribal populations have experienced direct or indirect discrimination in access to housing, employment and education. It provides that the costs to implement the program may not exceed \$300,000 per biennium.

As part of the social equity program, the following time-limited programs are adopted and may be funded from the Adult Use Cannabis Public Health and Safety and Municipal Opt-in Fund.

1. An apprenticeship navigator position is established within the Department of Labor to increase access to workforce development opportunities for impacted communities, including, but not limited to, apprenticeship and preapprenticeship programs.
2. An array of business support services targeted to impacted communities are provided by the Department of Economic and Community Development.
3. A cannabis business advocate position is established within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to assist participants under the Cannabis Legalization Act and the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act, respectively.

By December 15, 2026, each department must submit a report regarding the time-limited program to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters, economic and community development matters and cannabis matters.

Public Law 2023, chapter 683 also creates the Social Equity Program Advisory Committee of nine individuals who are members of impacted communities. The committee must be convened by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or the commissioner's designee.