

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**

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STATE OF MAINE
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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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Public Law 2023, chapter 474 provides one-time funding to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, in the amount of \$80,000, for paid leave costs that are not otherwise reimbursed by another entity.

LD 1880 An Act to Amend the Adult Use Cannabis Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 396 makes the following changes to the Cannabis Legalization Act and the provisions of Title 28-B applicable to the personal use and cultivation of adult use cannabis and cannabis products.

1. It makes the home address, telephone number and e-mail address of an applicant under the Cannabis Legalization Act, an employee of an applicant and all natural persons having a direct or indirect financial interest in the applied-for licenses confidential.
2. It allows cannabis plants, cannabis flower, cannabis trim, adult use cannabis and adult use cannabis products to be returned by a licensee to the licensee from whom the item was received provided the licensee returning the item tracks the item until it is transferred.
3. It allows a cannabis store, cultivation facility or products manufacturing facility to deliver immature cannabis plants, seedlings, adult use cannabis and adult use cannabis products to any location in a municipality, except locations within a safe zone designated by a municipality under Title 30-A, section 3253.
4. It provides that a cannabis store, cultivation facility or products manufacturing facility may deliver to a hotel or business only if written consent to such delivery is given by an authorized employee of the hotel or business.
5. It provides that a municipality may not prohibit delivery of adult use cannabis and adult use cannabis products authorized to be delivered under Title 28-B, section 504.
6. It provides that the Department of Administrative and Financial Services may limit, by rule, the mandatory testing required for adult use cannabis and adult use cannabis returned pursuant to Title 28-B, chapter 1.
7. It establishes the per package THC limit for edible cannabis products at 200 milligrams.
8. It sets the amount of cannabis concentrate in cannabis or combination of cannabis and cannabis concentrate that may be used, possessed or transported at any one time for personal use to 10 grams.
9. It allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to adopt rules with specific limitations on signs, advertising and marketing to minimize the appeal to persons under 21 years of age.

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10. It allows advertisements and marketing of a cannabis business, cannabis and cannabis products to include the display of a sign on the licensed premises and on the exterior of a motor vehicle of a cannabis business.

LD 1980 An Act to Improve Election Laws and Notarial Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 304 makes the following changes, including other necessary technical changes, to the laws governing elections and notarial acts.

1. Part A does the following.
 - A. It provides that the elections division of the Secretary of State's office is responsible for processing voter registration applications for voters enrolled in the Address Confidentiality Program and for creating the voter records in the central voter registration system. It also provides that the elections division is responsible for mailing the absentee ballots for statewide elections to the voters in the Address Confidentiality Program, while the municipal clerk must mail the absentee ballots for local elections to these voters.
 - B. It changes the effective date and implementation date of the laws governing online voter registration to no later than February 1, 2024.
 - C. It removes the requirement for municipal clerks to attend the biennial party caucuses in the even-numbered years.
 - D. It allows political parties to hold virtual biennial municipal caucuses rather than in-person caucuses.
 - E. It provides that primary candidates may file their candidate consent either with their primary petitions or prior to filing their primary petitions with the Secretary of State.
 - F. It provides that nonparty candidates may file their candidate consent either with their nomination petitions or prior to filing their nomination petitions with the Secretary of State.
 - G. It allows for the candidate consent and certificate of nomination for a replacement candidate to be submitted to the Secretary of State via scanned image or facsimile.
 - H. It allows for candidates to submit a withdrawal notice to the Secretary of State via scanned image or facsimile.
 - I. It prohibits a person from taking a photograph of another person in the voting place if the person taking the photograph is closer than 15 feet from the person being photographed.