

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.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

LD 2088 An Act to Change the Number of Agency Liquor Stores Allowed in Certain Municipalities and to Convene a Stakeholder Group Regarding Licensing and Operations

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 550 increases from six to seven the number of agency liquor stores the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations may license in a municipality with a population over 10,000 but less than 15,001. It authorizes the bureau to issue one additional agency liquor store license to any municipality instead of to only a municipality with a population of less than 10,000. In determining whether to issue an additional license, the bureau may consider any information provided by the municipality requesting an additional agency liquor store license instead of only considering the impact of seasonal population or tourism and other related information.

Public Law 2023, chapter 550 also directs the bureau to convene a stakeholder group to examine how agency liquor stores are licensed and operated in order to better understand how they are distributed throughout the State and to evaluate the effectiveness of the current system for consumers, the general public, local law enforcement officials, municipalities, the State and entities licensed in this State for the sale of liquor.

Public Law 2023, chapter 550 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 19, 2024.

LD 2108 An Act to Amend Maine's Charitable Organization Gaming Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 578 provides that more than one registrant may operate a game of chance at the same time on the same premises and that, when games of chance are to be operated during the annual fair of an agricultural society, the agricultural society must determine the number of registrants permitted to operate a game of chance. It also provides that a bona fide nonprofit organization may operate a registered game of chance to which the general public has access no more than four times in a calendar year for a period not to exceed the duration of the annual fair of an agricultural society or the duration of a special event, rather than for a period not to exceed four consecutive days.

Public Law 2023, chapter 578 makes other technical changes to provide clarity to the provisions related to the imposition of a fine of not more than \$100 per violation on a beano or game of chance licensee or registrant or a licensee's or registrant's agent or employee that has violated the laws or rules governing beano or games of chance, subject to an appeal and hearing before the Commissioner of Public Safety, and to provisions allowing the issue of the imposition of such a fine to be resolved by the execution of a consent agreement.