

STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature coming from the

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

July 2007

MEMBERS:

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SEN. BRUCE S. BRYANT
SEN. DEBRA D. PLOWMAN

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REP. BONNIE S. GOULD
REP. STACEY FITTS*

STAFF:

DANIELLE D. FOX, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

* Representative Stacey Fitts replaced former Representative Abigail Holman on the Legal and Veterans' Affairs Committee.

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

Summary of Committee Actions

I. BILLS AND PAPERS CONSIDERED	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of Comm Activity</u>	<u>% of All Bills/Papers</u>
A. Bills referred to Committee			
<i>Bills referred and voted out</i>	108	91.5%	5.6%
<u><i>Bills Carried Over</i></u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6.8%</u>	<u>0.4%</u>
Total Bills referred	116	98.3%	6.0%
B. Bills reported out by law or joint order	2	1.7%	0.1%
Total Bills considered by Committee	118	100.0%	6.1%
Orders and Resolutions referred to Committee			
<i>Joint Study Orders referred and voted out</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Joint Resolutions referred and voted out</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Orders and Resolutions Carried Over</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Orders and Resolutions Referred	0	0.0%	0.0%
II. COMMITTEE REPORTS	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of this Committee's Reports</u>	<u>% of All Committee Reports</u>
A. Unanimous committee reports			
<i>Ought to Pass</i>	6	5.5%	0.3%
<i>Ought to Pass as Amended</i>	24	21.8%	1.4%
<i>Ought to Pass as New Draft</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<u><i>Ought Not to Pass</i></u>	<u>60</u>	<u>54.5%</u>	<u>3.4%</u>
Total unanimous reports	90	81.8%	5.2%
B. Divided committee reports			
<i>Two-way reports</i>	20	18.2%	1.1%
<i>Three-way reports</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<u><i>Four-way reports</i></u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total divided reports	20	18.2%	1.1%
Total committee reports	110	93.2%	6.3%
III. CONFIRMATION HEARINGS	2	N/A	N/A
IV. FINAL DISPOSITION	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of Comm Bills/Papers</u>	<u>% of All Bills/Papers</u>
A. Bills and Papers enacted or finally passed			
<i>Joint Study Orders</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Public laws</i>	25	21.2%	1.3%
<i>Private and Special Laws</i>	1	0.8%	0.1%
<i>Resolves</i>	4	3.4%	0.2%
<u><i>Constitutional Resolutions</i></u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Enacted or Finally Passed	30	25.4%	1.6%
B. Resolves to authorize major substantive rules			
Rules authorized without legislative changes	1	100.0%	4.2%
Rules authorized with legislative changes	0	0.0%	0.0%
<u>Rules not authorized by the Legislature</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total number of rules reviewed	1	100.0%	4.2%
C. Bills vetoed or held by Governor			
<i>Vetoed over-ridden</i>	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Vetoed sustained</i>	1	0.8%	0.1%
<u><i>Held by the Governor</i></u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total	1	0.8%	0.1%

Note: A committee vote on a bill is not included here if the bill was subsequently re-referred to another committee or recommitted and carried over.

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

LD 10 An Act To Reimburse Philip Wolley for Litigation Expenses Incurred in Connection with His Termination and Reinstatement as a State Employee

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WEDDELL	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$28,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to reimburse Philip Wolley for litigation expenses incurred in connection with his termination and subsequent reinstatement as a state employee.

LD 27 An Act To Clarify Election Laws Concerning Election Clerks' Qualifications

**PUBLIC 422
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BARSTOW	OTP-AM	H-568 H-587 PATRICK

This bill relaxes the residency requirement for the appointment of election clerks, permitting a municipal clerk to appoint election clerks who are residents of the county of the municipality if insufficient numbers of municipal residents are available.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-568)

This amendment requires a municipal clerk to notify the chairs of the local and state party committees of the lack of available election clerks necessary to provide a balance among the major political parties. After providing this notice the clerk may appoint election clerks from within the county. This amendment also requires municipal officers to consider persons nominated from the county and state party committees when appointing election clerks. Finally, this amendment requires the municipal clerk to complete a form provided by the Secretary of State, when a registered voter changes party enrollment status in order to be available to serve as an election clerk to maintain a balance between the major political parties and that election clerk participates in the counting of ballots. That form must be filed with tabulation results sent to the Secretary of State and attached to the sorted group of ballots counted by an election clerk who conducted the count on those ballots. This amendment also requires the Secretary of State to report how many forms regarding election clerks who changed party enrollment status were submitted.

House Amendment "A" (H-587)

This amendment removes the mandate preamble, which was included in the committee amendment in error.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 422 requires a municipal clerk to notify the chairs of the local and state party committees of the lack of available election clerks necessary to provide a balance among the major political parties. After providing this notice the clerk may appoint election clerks from within the county. It also requires municipal officers to consider persons nominated from the county and state party committees when appointing election clerks. Chapter XXX requires the municipal clerk to complete a form provided by the Secretary of State, when a registered voter changes party enrollment status in order to be available to serve as an election clerk to maintain a balance between the major political parties and that election clerk participates in the counting of ballots. That form must be filed with tabulation results sent to the Secretary of State and attached to the sorted group of ballots counted by an election clerk who conducted the count on those ballots. This law also requires the Secretary of State to report how many forms regarding election clerks who changed party enrollment status were submitted.

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

Public Law 2007, chapter 422 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 27, 2007.

LD 35 An Act To Require Approval by the Gambling Control Board for the Transfer of Ownership of an Off-track Betting Facility ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VALENTINO	ONTP	

Current law places the administration of licensing off-track betting facilities with the Harness Racing Commission. This bill would amend the provisions of law that govern off-track betting facilities to provide that the transfer of ownership of an off-track betting facility would be subject to the approval of the Gambling Control Board. The Gambling Control Board is the authority that licenses and administers the law governing the operation of slot machines at a slot machine facility.

LD 42 An Act To Repeal Term Limits for Legislators INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STRIMLING	OTP-AM	

This bill eliminates term limits for Legislators if the people of the State favor the idea at a referendum.

LD 62 An Act To Recognize Gold Star Parents and Family Members PUBLIC 461

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAKAS BOWMAN	OTP-AM	S-350 ROTUNDO H-84

This bill directs the Adjutant General to establish an award to give to "gold star" parents and close family members of armed services members who are killed in action or die as a consequence of wounds received in battle if one of the "gold star" parents or close family members lives in this State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-84)

This amendment clarifies the system to be developed by the Adjutant General to award gold star medals to relatives living in Maine of members of the United States Armed Forces who are killed in action or die as a result of injuries received in battle since September 11, 2001. The system is to be administered by the Director of the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management. The amendment provides that up to 3 medals may be awarded. One medal would be issued to a surviving spouse and one to the parents or 2 if the parents are divorced. If the service member has no surviving spouse or parents or they live outside of the State, a medal may be awarded to the service member's next of kin.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-350)

This amendment strikes from the committee amendment the General Fund appropriations for the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management for a medal system to recognize certain members of the United States Armed Forces. The department will have to implement this program using currently budgeted resources.

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 461, requires the Adjutant General to establish a system to award gold star medals to relatives living in Maine of members of the United States Armed Forces who are killed in action or die as a result of injuries received in battle since September 11, 2001. The system is to be administered by the Director of the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management. The amendment provides that up to 3 medals may be awarded. One medal would be issued to a surviving spouse and one to the parents or 2 if the parents are divorced. If the service member has no surviving spouse or parents or they live outside of the State, a medal may be awarded to the service member's next of kin.

LD 76 An Act To Temporarily Reduce the Fee To Operate High-stakes Beano

PUBLIC 109

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LORING SCHNEIDER	OTP-AM	H-83

This bill eliminates the annual fee for a high-stakes beano license.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-83)

This amendment replaces the bill. It reduces the annual license fee due to be paid in 2008 and 2009 to the Chief of the State Police for the operation of high-stakes beano from \$50,000 to \$25,000. This amendment also requires the Chief of the State Police to issue a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs that describes enforcement and administrative functions conducted with regard to the conduct of high-stakes beano during 2008.

Enacted Law Summary

Public law 2007 chapter 109 reduces the annual license fee due to be paid in 2008 and 2009 to the Chief of the State Police for the operation of high-stakes beano from \$50,000 to \$25,000. This amendment also requires the Chief of the State Police to issue a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs that describes enforcement and administrative functions conducted with regard to the conduct of high-stakes beano during 2008.

**LD 106 An Act To Prohibit a Maine Clean Election Act Candidate from
Participating in Political Action Committee Funding**

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARLOW	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

This bill prohibits Maine Clean Election Act candidates from participating in political action committees that are established to influence the election or defeat of legislative candidates or to support that candidate's effort to be elected to a legislative leadership position.

LD 127 An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to Beano

PUBLIC 110

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK BRYANT B	OTP-AM	H-115

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

This bill allows a person who sells lucky seven or other sealed tickets prior to a beano game as a volunteer to play in the beano game. Current Department of Public Safety rules prohibit a person who sells lucky seven or sealed tickets from participating in beano.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-115)

This amendment removes an incorrect reference in the bill. As corrected, it allows a person who, as a volunteer, sells or distributes beano cards or materials used to play beano prior to a beano game to then play in the beano game. Current Department of Public Safety rules prohibit a person who sells beano cards or materials from participating in beano.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 110 allows a person who, as a volunteer, sells or distributes beano cards or materials used to play beano prior to a beano game to then play in the beano game

LD 143 An Act To Allow Direct-to-consumer Wine and Malt Liquor Sales

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROMLEY	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill allows for an out-of-state producer, supplier, importer, wholesaler, distributor or retailer who obtains a Maine certificate of approval license and a non-resident shippers license to ship wine or malt-liquor directly to a resident of this state 21 years of age or older for personal use. This bill creates a non-resident shipper's license available to certificate of approval holders who show proof of an out-of-state alcoholic beverage license. The fee for a non-resident shipper's license as provided by this bill is \$100. Certificate of approval holder in current law is an in-state manufacturer, out-of-state manufacturer or out-of-state wholesaler license by the bureau. A manufacturer is a person who distills, rectifies, brews, ferments, bottles, or other wise produces liquor.

This bill requires that shipped wine or malt liquor go only to a resident 21 years of age or older and may not be re-sold. The delivery must be made to the person who has ordered the product or an of-age person who resides in that household. The bill requires that the shipping container be conspicuously labeled "CONTAINS ALCOHOL: SIGNATURE OF PERSON 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY" A shipper would be barred from shipping to prohibited shipping areas as identified by the bureau or local option.

The bill provides that a non-resident shipper shall pay annually all sales and excise taxes due on sales during the preceding calendar year.

The bill requires a non-resident shipper to report to the bureau annually the total number of bottles of beer or wine shipped into the state. It also provides that the bureau may audit the shipper's records.

The bill provides that a violation of this act would be a Class D crime and would constitute a violation of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act. The bureau may suspend or revoke the shipper's license for a violation - subject to administrative proceedings.

The bill provides that the bureau may adopt routine technical rules to administer these provisions.

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LD 176 An Act To Provide Notice to the General Public about Proposed Initiative Questions

**PUBLIC 234
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STRIMLING	OTP-AM	S-114

Current law provides that the Secretary of State is required to provide the wording of the ballot question to initiative petition applicants within 10 business days of receipt of written consent to the final language of the proposed initiative law.

This bill, proposed as an emergency measure, requires the Secretary of State to provide reasonable notice to the general public when the Secretary of State drafts a question that will be on a ballot for a citizen initiative. After providing notice, the Secretary of State would be required to provide a 30-day opportunity for members of the general public to provide comments with respect to the accuracy of the proposed question. After accepting and reviewing all commentary submitted, the Secretary of State would then finalize the initiative question.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-114)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment, an emergency measure, establishes a comment period so that the public may offer comments on the wording and content of ballot questions for any initiative that will appear on the ballot in accordance with the procedure for citizen-initiated measures. The amendment requires the Secretary of State to propose a question for the initiative within 10 business days after adjournment of the legislative session. That proposed question will be posted on the publicly accessible website of the Secretary of State along with a notice of a public comment period. The notice may also be published in newspapers with general statewide circulation. No later than 10 days after receiving public comments, the Secretary of State shall write the question to appear on the ballot.

This amendment also makes changes to provisions of law that have been rendered inconsistent by the November 2006 passage of a Constitutional Amendment regarding when petitions for citizen initiatives are due to municipalities for signature verification.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 234 establishes a comment period so that the public may offer comments on the wording and content of ballot questions for any initiative that will appear on the ballot in accordance with the procedure for citizen-initiated measures. It requires the Secretary of State to propose a question for the initiative within 10 business days after adjournment of the legislative session. That proposed question will be posted on the publicly accessible website of the Secretary of State along with a notice of a public comment period. The notice may also be published in newspapers with general statewide circulation. No later than 10 days after receiving public comments, the Secretary of State shall write the question to appear on the ballot.

This law also makes changes to provisions of law that have been rendered inconsistent by the November 2006 passage of a Constitutional Amendment regarding when petitions for citizen initiatives are due to municipalities for signature verification.

Chapter 234 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 5, 2007.

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

LD 203 An Act Concerning Student Voter Registration

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KNIGHT	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill amends a provision of election law that deals with the determination of residency for uniformed service voters, students, institutionalized patients and Indians. It strikes a provision in current law that prohibits construing the provision to prevent a student at an institution of learning from qualifying as a voter in that municipality while attending school. The bill adds language that prohibits a student from claiming residency for voting purposes in the municipality where the student resides if the student lives in housing owned by an institution of learning while attending that institution unless the student lived in the municipality prior to attending that institution.

LD 287 An Act To Limit Campaigning at Polling Places

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVAGE D	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

This bill amends the section of law that governs political activities on election day. That law prohibits the influence or attempt to influence a person's decision regarding a candidate or question on the ballot that day. This section of law provides that candidates on the ballot may be present within the voting place as long as there is no attempt to influence a vote and the candidate does not state the name of the office being sought or asking for a person's vote. This bill adds a new section to that law. It would limit the number of campaign workers allowed at an entrance to a voting place to only the candidate or one representative from the candidate's campaign.

**LD 300 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine
To Restrict the Voting Privileges of Certain Incarcerated Felons**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HANLEY S	ONTP	

This Resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Maine that would revoke the right of a person, while incarcerated in a correctional facility of the Department of Corrections, who is convicted of murder or a Class A or Class B crime to vote.

If placed on the ballot, the question would read:

"Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to revoke the right of a convicted felon incarcerated in a Department of Corrections facility to vote?"

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LD 309 An Act To Change the Laws Concerning Games of Chance

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRYANT M BRYANT B	ONTP	

This bill provides that Maine State Lottery tickets may be sold at any time during the conduct of "beano" games, before, after or during. Under the bill, other games of chance may be sold up to 2 hours before "beano" games.

This bill also increases the permitted sale value for lucky seven or similar sealed tickets from \$1 to \$20. Current law provides that lucky seven and similar sealed tickets may be sold only to those purchasing cards to play "beano." This bill permits them to be sold to anyone who has paid an entrance fee.

LD 310 An Act To Ensure the Integrity of Maine's Electoral Process by Requiring Physical Ballots

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BURNS MITCHELL	ONTP	

This bill repeals a provision in current law that requires any voting machine used in the conduct of elections to produce permanent paper records of votes for voter verification and to provide for a manual audit capacity of the votes cast on that machine. This bill replaces that section. The proposed language in the bill requires all voting machines used by voters to cast their votes in an election to provide a physical ballot that is the equivalent of or superior to a hand-cast ballot and clearly reflects the intent of the voter. The bill also prescribes the process to be followed if the voter determines that the physical ballot is not consistent with the vote case using the voting machine.

LD 330 An Act To Protect the Integrity of Security Deposits

PUBLIC 332

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ADAMS BARTLETT	OTP-AM	H-420

This bill requires a landlord who is selling or transferring property being rented to inform the buyer or transferee at the closing on the property of the security deposits paid by tenants of the property, to transfer those security deposits at the closing and to provide written proof at the closing of the disclosure of this information and the transfer of funds. This bill also specifies that failure to provide the accounting or to transfer the security deposits is a violation of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-420)

This amendment removes the penalty provision of the bill that provided that a person in possession of a security deposit who fails to provide an accounting and transfer of security deposit funds when required commits a violation of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 332 requires a landlord who is selling or transferring property being rented to inform the

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buyer or transferee at the closing on the property of the security deposits paid by tenants of the property, to transfer those security deposits at the closing and to provide written proof at the closing of the disclosure of this information and the transfer of funds.

LD 348 An Act To Limit Contributions to Political Action Committees ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CUMMINGS	ONTP	

This bill limits the aggregate amount of contributions to a political action committee to \$7,500 from any one source in an election cycle. The limits proposed by this bill will be considered with LD 1394 An Act Regarding Campaign Finance Disclosure by Political Action Committees, which is being carried over to the Second Regular Session.

LD 383 An Act To Amend the Landlord-tenant Laws ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COURTNEY	ONTP	

This bill provides for expedited landlord-tenant forcible entry and detainer proceedings in certain situations. Causing substantial damage to rental property is designated a Class D crime in this bill.

LD 396 An Act To Provide Additional Funding for the Maine Clean Election Act ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROBINSON	ONTP	

This bill amends the provision of the Maine Clean Election Act that lists the sources of revenue for the Maine Clean Election Fund. It adds to the sources of revenue, money reimbursed to the fund for independent expenditures made by PAC supporting a participating candidate who is a principal officer, primary fundraiser, or decision maker of that PAC. This bill requires that a participating candidate who is a principal officer, primary fundraiser or decision maker in a PAC to disclose that information and any independent expenditures on forms provided by the commission.

LD 434 An Act To Allow a Voter To Preserve the Confidentiality of That Voter's Presence at the Polls ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PLOWMAN	ONTP	

This bill amends the provision of law that requires an election clerk to announce the name of a voter in a loud, clear voice. This bill provides for an exception to that requirement that would prohibit the clerk from announcing the voter's name if the voter makes such a request.

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LD 458 An Act To Prevent Persons Convicted of Child Molestation from Being Buried in a Maine Veterans' Cemetery ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK	ONTP	

This bill amends the law governing burials at the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System. It would prohibit the burial of a person in a cemetery of the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System if that person has been convicted by a court in Maine, or in any other state, provincial or federal court of a sexual crime against a minor.

LD 475 An Act To Prevent Additional Housing Charges for Persons Requiring In-home Care PUBLIC 387

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARRACHE	OTP-AM	S-280

This bill prohibits a landlord from charging additional rent or utilities from a tenant for a provider of in-home and community services.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-280)

This amendment provides that a landlord may request a letter from the Department of Health and Human Services to verify that a tenant is eligible for the use of in-home or community support services. This amendment also adds a provision to repeal the section of law enacted in this legislation effective January 1, 2009.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 387 provides that a landlord may request a letter from the Department of Health and Human Services to verify that a tenant is eligible for the use of in-home or community support services. The law includes a sunset provision to repeal this section of law effective January 1, 2009.

LD 490 An Act To Clarify Reporting of Contributions and Expenditures by Persons Involving a Ballot Question ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROBINSON	ONTP	

This bill amends the reporting requirement for a person engaged in political activity from a person who solicits and receives or makes expenditures aggregating in excess of \$1,500 in regards to a ballot question to a person who expressly advocates or purchases political advertising in regards to a ballot question.

The proposal in this bill is being considered with LD 1394 which has been carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

LD 491 An Act To Set Limits on Political Action Committee Contributions

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VALENTINO	ONTP	

This bill limits contributions to a political action committee by:

1. Limiting the aggregate amount of contributions from any one source to \$1,000 in a primary campaign and \$1,000 in a campaign for a general election; and
2. Limiting the aggregate amount of contributions from any one source to \$500 for promoting a leadership campaign

LD 508 An Act Concerning Citizens' Initiatives and Public Disclosure of Influence

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DILL	ONTP	

This bill raises the amount of contributions or expenditures that triggers the requirement for a person not defined as a political committee but who solicits contributions or makes expenditures to influence a ballot question to file a report with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices from \$1,500 to \$3,000. The bill also classifies in-kind expenditures and staff time as expenditures for purposes of reporting and requires the identification of contributions that make up a difference when contributions exceed expenditures by more than \$5,000.

The proposal in this bill is being considered with LD 1394 which has been carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

LD 557 An Act To Increase the Penalty for Late Filings by Lobbyists BY REQUEST

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARLOW	ONTP	

This bill increases the penalty for late filings by a lobbyist from \$100 to \$200. This bill increases from \$100 to \$200 the penalty that the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices may impose upon a lobbyist who fails to file a report on time. This penalty would be assessed for each person who should be listed in the report for each month that the report is not filed. Current law requires lobbyists to file monthly reports. Detailed reports are required during the time when the Legislature is in session. Reports in lesser detail are required when the Legislature is not in session if no lobbying activity was conducted during that time. Annual reports are also required which are filed jointly with the lobbyist's employer.

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

LD 563 An Act To Move the Primary Election from June to September

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COURTNEY	ONTP	

This bill changes the date of the primary election from the 2nd Tuesday in June to the 2nd Tuesday in September.

LD 585 An Act To Establish Instant Run-off Voting for Gubernatorial Races

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HINCK	ONTP	

This bill amends the process by which the determination of the election of Governor is determined. It establishes a system for ranking gubernatorial candidates, in order of preference, if more than 2 are listed on the ballot. The bill defines this method as instant run-off voting. Under the bill, this method would be implemented for elections for Governor beginning in 2014. The method provides for rounds of counting. The first round will count all of the highest ranking choices. The candidate with the fewest high ranking votes is eliminated. The remaining, or advancing candidates, will be considered in a subsequent round. Once it is determined that a second round will occur, the bill directs the Secretary of State to administer the run-off process for determining the winning candidate. In this subsequent round, the next highest ranking votes from the ballots that had the eliminated candidate as first choice, are credited to the corresponding advancing candidates. This process continues until only 2 candidates remain. The candidate with the most votes wins the election.

The bill requires that instructions must be placed on sample ballots and on the actual ballot used on election day. Sample ballots would be required to be sent out with actual absentee ballots and posted in or near each voting booth. The bill also provides that a municipality or election authorities may provide for the use of mechanical or electronic devices for marking, sorting, counting and tabulating ballots.

Under this bill, a ballot is determined "exhausted" for the purposes of being counted when: (1) there are no more ranked choices; (2) more than one ranking has been skipped and then counting stops at the ranking where the skipped ranks begin; or (3) when a ballot has the same ranking for more than one candidate, then the ballot is exhausted at that ranking point. The bill provides that if a tie occurs at any stage, determinations are made based on whomever received the most votes at the previous stage. If no previous stage applies, the bill states that the tie must be resolved in accordance with general election laws.

The bill provides that the Secretary of State may limit the total number of rankings to no fewer than 5 candidates and states that two or more candidates may be eliminated simultaneously if the total votes for the two is less than those credited to the next highest ranked candidate.

Finally, this bill provides, that in terms of determining the status of a recognized political party, only the votes for that party's candidate in the initial round of counting shall apply.

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LD 620 An Act Relating to Liquor Samples

PUBLIC 113

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK MITCHELL	OTP-AM	H-101

This bill allows a sales representative for a distilled spirits manufacturer or supplier to give a retail licensee a sample bottle of spirits in a size not to exceed 1 liter. These samples would be provided in the form of a bottle to be taken by the retail licensee to consume elsewhere. The provisions in LD 620 that allows for spirits samples are similar to those provisions in current law that provide for beer/wine samples.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-101)

This amendment clarifies that the 3-liter-per-year limitation is per distiller represented by a sales representative. The amendment removes the provision that samples be provided in the smallest container size available for sale in this State and retains the provision that samples may not exceed one liter.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 113 allows a sales representative for a distilled spirits manufacturer to provide spirits samples to retail licensees. These samples are provided in the form of a bottle of spirits given to the retail licensee to be consumed away from the licensed retail establishment. Individual samples may not exceed one liter in size and the sales representative may give no more than 3 liters to any one retail licensee per year.

LD 636 An Act To Create Optional Public Financing of Legislative Leadership Elections

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VALENTINO	ONTP	

This bill sets up specific provisions within the Maine Clean Election Act that would provide additional financing for certified candidates who intend to run for Legislative leadership positions. It defines "leadership position" as President of the Senate, House Speaker, and party leaders in the House and Senate.

To qualify for financing under this program, a certified candidate in the Senate must get 7 signatures from party members and House candidates must get 20. A letter of intent must be filed with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices after certification and within 3 days of becoming a leadership candidate. Prior to certification a leadership candidate would be required to collect 10% of their Clean Election Act Fund distribution in seed money, which may not come from an out-of-state donor.

Candidates for Speaker of the House would receive \$20,000. House leadership positions would receive \$10,000. Senate President candidates would receive \$15,000. Senate leadership candidates would receive \$5000. Unspent money would be returned to the commission. The bill provides that leadership candidates do not receive matching funds for leadership races. A candidate for leadership under this program would be prohibited from giving money to a candidate, campaign, political committee or PAC during the leadership campaign and would be prohibited from accepting or spending other funds in running for leadership. It also prohibits leadership candidates in the program from serving as an officer or having control over a PAC that contributes to a campaign in the state.

Finally, this bill allows for the commission to adopt routine technical rules to implement this program.

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LD 663 An Act To Update Absentee Ballot Procedures

**PUBLIC 122
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BARSTOW	OTP-AM	H-102

Current law provides that an immediate family member may request an absentee ballot for a person. This bill, proposed as an emergency measure, amends the definition of immediate family member under the election laws to include domestic partners.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-102)

This amendment clarifies the use of the term "domestic partner" by creating a definition in election law rather than relying on a cross-reference to another title. Current law provides that an immediate family member may request an absentee ballot for a person. This amendment changes the definition of "immediate family" under the election laws to include domestic partners. The definition of "domestic partner" as written in this amendment applies only to election law.

Enacted Law Summary

Current law provides that an immediate family member may request an absentee ballot for a person. Public law, chapter 122 changes the definition of "immediate family" under the election laws to include domestic partners. The definition of "domestic partner" as written in this law applies only to election law. Chapter 122 was enacted as an emergency measure and became effective on May 15, 2007.

LD 683 An Act To Limit the Activities of Political Candidates at Polling Places to Voting

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DIAMOND	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	

Current law prohibits activities within the voting place and on public property within 250 feet of a voting place that influence or attempt to influence another person's decision regarding a candidate or question on the ballot for election that day. It does not prohibit a candidate from attending the voting place and orally communicating with voters as long as there is no attempt to influence and the candidate does not state the name of the office for which they are seeking election. This bill would limit a candidate's presence at the voting place only to vote.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-92)

This amendment, which was not adopted clarifies the bill's prohibition on candidates' activities at the voting place and creates a separate statutory provision. The amendment adds a further restriction prohibiting a candidate from being within 50 feet of an entrance to a voting place, except for the purposes of voting.

LD 699 Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Improve Certain Aspects of the Citizen Initiative Process

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAVEN MARTIN	ONTP	

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This resolve establishes the Commission To Improve Certain Aspects of the Citizen Initiative Process. The duties of the commission would be to gather data and information to improve the citizen initiative process. The resolve states that the goal of the study is to make information more comprehensive and accessible to citizens, paying particular attention to senior citizens, and to clarify how initiative questions are presented on the ballot.

LD 700 An Act To Limit Expenditures by Political Action Committees

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GROSE	ONTP	

This bill amends existing law that places limits on contributions made by political action committees in support of the election of a candidate by proposing language to include contributions made against the election of a candidate.

**LD 701 An Act To Authorize the Operation of Slot Machines on Indian Island
in Old Town**

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LORING SCHNEIDER		H-572

This bill allows the Penobscot Nation to operate 400 of the 1,500 slot machines authorized pursuant to law on Indian Island in Old Town. These machines are subject to regulation by the Gambling Control Board. One percent of gross slot machine income must be distributed to the Treasurer of State for deposit in the General Fund. The Penobscot Nation retains the net slot machine income.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-572)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment allows for 400 slot machines, to be operated by a federally recognized Indian tribe that is licensed to conduct high-stakes beano as of January 1, 2007. The license would be subject to existing licensing requirements and oversight by the Gambling Control Board. The initial license fee for the slot machine license established by this amendment, based on the maximum of 400 machines, is \$55,000 and the annual renewal fee is \$20,000. One percent of the gross slot machine revenue would be required to be deposited to the General Fund. Thirty-eight percent of the net slot machine revenue from slot machines operated by a federally recognized Indian tribe under this amendment would be distributed as follows:

- A. Three percent to the General Fund for administrative expenses of the board, including gambling addiction counseling services, in accordance with rules adopted by the board;
- B. Two and one half percent to the University of Maine System Scholarship Fund;
- C. Two and one half percent to the Maine Community College System to fund its scholarships program;
- D. Five percent to the Maine Community College System;
- E. Five percent to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services;
- F. Five percent to the Maine Technology Institute;
- G. Five percent, in equal amounts, to nonprofit organizations licensed as of January 1, 2007 to conduct beano within

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75 miles of where slot machines are operated by a federally recognized Indian tribe in the State;

H. Five percent to the bordering municipality with the highest population where slot machines are operated by a federally recognized Indian tribe that is licensed to conduct high-stakes beano; and

I. Five percent to be distributed to other federally recognized Indian tribes in the State that are not licensed to operate slot machines.

LD 701 was carried over pursuant to Joint Order, HP 1369.

LD 730 Resolve, Authorizing Matthew Haskell To Sue the State

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAIN SCHNEIDER	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This resolve authorizes Matthew Haskell to bring a civil action against the Department of Health and Human Services for damages in connection with actions taken by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-288)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 731 An Act To Preserve the Integrity of Elections by Removing the Requirement for a Challenge Affidavit

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FLETCHER	ONTP	

This bill amends the law that provides that any voter of any municipality may challenge the right of another to vote. It strikes the requirement that a challenge must be made in the form of a signed affidavit under oath administered by the warden. Under current law, the affidavit must state the challenger's name, address, party affiliation, voter registration status in the municipality, the reason the challenged person may be ineligible to vote, the source of the information or personal knowledge on which the challenge is based. It also provides that a false statement is punishable under the penalties of perjury. This bill would lessen the existing challenge requirements and require only that the challenger state his or her name, the name of the voter challenged and the reason for the challenge.

LD 732 An Act To Improve the Candidate Nomination and Replacement Process

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FLETCHER	ONTP	

Current law provides that a political committee may nominate a replacement candidate following a candidate's withdrawal in accordance with the following provisions:

- the candidate who has withdrawn was nominated via primary election, and;
- the candidate who has withdrawn, did so by the 2nd Monday in July; or

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- the candidate withdrew due to becoming permanently and continuously incapacitated; or
- the candidate died.

The replacement candidate must be nominated by the 4th Monday in July preceding the general election (or as soon as practicable if the candidate withdrew because of incapacitation or the candidate died).

This bill would allow the party to name a replacement for a candidate who withdrew after only filing a primary petition with the Secretary of State. Current law provides that certified primary petitions must be filed by March 15th.

**LD 805 An Act To Authorize a Tribal Commercial Track and Slot Machines in
Washington County**

VETO SUSTAINED

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP MAJ ONTP MIN	S-37 MARRACHE

This bill was presented to the 123rd Legislature as a result of the citizen initiative process provided for by the Constitution of Maine. The bill amends the current framework that authorizes and regulates the existing racino in Bangor to allow for slot machines to be operated at a tribal commercial harness racing track in Washington County.

Currently, a commercial track operator is eligible for a slot machine operator license. This bill creates a tribal commercial track, comparable to a commercial track, and provides that the tribal track would be eligible for a license to operate slot machines. Under this bill, a tribal commercial track would be more than 90 miles from an existing commercial track and within 45 miles of tribal land. A tribal commercial track would be required to race a minimum of 25 days annually. LD 805 places the same requirements on a tribal commercial track that exist for regular commercial tracks including payments to the state, off-track betting facilities, agricultural fairs and other industry related funds. All licensing requirements in existing law would apply to a tribal commercial track slot machine facility. The current statewide limit for slot machines is 1500. LD 805 raises that limit to 3000.

The distribution of slot machine revenue would be the same for a tribal racino as is required by law for the Bangor racino with the following exceptions:

- 1) The revenue from the tribal racino required to be distributed for scholarships at the University System and Community Colleges would be dedicated to campuses in Washington County.
- 2) The tribal racino also makes two additional distributions - 1% to the Washington County Development Authority and 1% to career and technical education centers in Washington County.

Finally, this initiated bill provides for a license to conduct high-stakes beano on non-tribal land in Washington County and that the license may be issued jointly to all Federally recognized tribes in the state.

This bill was passed by the Legislature without change, in accordance with the Constitution Maine, but then vetoed by the Governor. The veto was sustained. In accordance with the Constitution of Maine, this initiated bill will be put before the people of the state for a vote in November 2007.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-37)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

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**LD 846 Resolve, Directing the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Liquor
Licensing and Compliance To Study the Retail Placement and
Marketing of Spirits, Beer and Wine with Regard to Minors**

RESOLVE 68

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACDONALD DOW	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-289 H-305 PATRICK

Current law provides that an agency liquor store must be located at least 300 feet from a public or private school, church, chapel or parish house. This distance requirement may be waived for a church, chapel, parish house or post secondary school, after holding a public near the proposed location. The waiver does not apply to all schools, just post-secondary schools. The 300 feet distance requirement in current law would still be applicable with regard to churches, chapels and parish houses.

This bill amends that law to require that an agency store must be at least 750 feet from a public or private school. This requirement would apply to newly licensed agency stores as well as existing agency stores when those licenses are due for renewal. The bill provides that after a public hearing near the agency store or proposed agency store, the bureau may waive the distance requirement as long as the spirits sold by the agency store are placed in a locked display case accessed only by an employee who is 17 years of age or older.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-289)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve directing the bureau of liquor licensing and compliance within the Department of Public Safety to conduct a study of agency liquor stores with regard to the retail placement and advertising of spirits with regard to minors.

House Amendment "A" (H-305)

This amendment directs the bureau of liquor licensing and compliance within the Department of Public Safety to include beer and wine in its study regarding the retail placement and advertising of spirits with regard to minors.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 68 directs the bureau of liquor licensing and compliance within the Department of Public Safety to conduct a study of agency liquor stores with regard to the retail placement and advertising of spirits, beer and wine with regard to minors. This law requires a report to be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs by January 30, 2008.

LD 854 An Act To Extend Term Limits for the House of Representatives

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS P	ONTP	

This bill extends the number of consecutive terms a member of the House of Representatives may serve from 4 to 5. This bill applies only to a member of the House of Representatives who is elected to a first term in or after 2008.

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**LD 890 An Act To Allow the Awarding of Prize Money from Gambling
Machines Run by Nonprofit Organizations**

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK BRYANT B	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill provides that nonprofit organizations eligible for a license to conduct beano are eligible for a license to operate up to 5 slot machines per nonprofit organization location. A non-profit would be required to get municipal approval before the gambling control board could issue a slot machine operator license. Slot machines operated by the non-profits would be required to be connected to the central site monitoring system that is currently in place to monitor slot machines operated at the slot machine facility in Bangor. That system is enabled to monitor all activities and to shut down machines if necessary.

Under this bill, the initial license fee for an operator of a non-profit slot machine license is \$1000 and the annual renewal fee is \$250.

The bill provides for the distribution of slot machine revenue as follows:

1. One percent of gross slot machine income to the General Fund for administrative costs of the Gambling Control Board;
2. Twenty-four percent of net slot machine income to the General Fund for administrative costs of the Gambling Control Board and \$200,000 for the Citizen Trade Policy Commission;
3. One percent of net slot machine income for gambling addiction services; and
4. Ten percent of net slot machine income directly to the municipality where the slot machines are located.

The bill also provides for revenue sharing agreement with the municipality that could provide 10% of the net slot machine income to the municipality.

**LD 891 An Act To Allow and Regulate Additional Pari-mutuel Wagering at
Commercial Tracks**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK BRYANT B	ONTP	

This bill would require the Harness Racing Commission to adopt major substantive rules that would provide for the acceptance of wagers on live, simulcast or replayed horse races using technology beneficial to the industry. The rules would be required to provide for, at a minimum, telephone wagering. Current law provides that wagering is conducted at the track and prohibits telephone wagering.

This bill also provides that a commercial track may be licensed to sell lucky seven or similar sealed tickets. Twenty-five percent of the gross profit from the sale of these tickets would be forwarded to the commission to benefit the Animal Welfare Fund. This money would be targeted for the welfare of equines.

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LD 892 An Act To Authorize Nonprofit Organizations To Conduct Tournament Games

PUBLIC 205

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK BRYANT B	OTP-AM	H-267

Current law allows for licensed games of chance, like poker, but limits the maximum bet on a game, to \$1 per bet. This bill creates a new tournament game license where an entry fee would be paid per person to participate in the tournament plus a license fee. The winner of the tournament would receive 75% of the entry fees as the winning prize.

This bill authorizes the Chief of the State Police to issue a tournament game license to organizations that are eligible to conduct beano and games and games of chance and have first received municipal approval. The maximum entry fee would be \$100 and the maximum number of players would be 100. The bill provides for an additional license fee of \$5 per person. An organization would be limited to one tournament license per month. Tokens or chips would be used during the course of play and the tournament must be completed within 48 hours. Lucky-seven or similar sealed tickets would be permitted to be sold at these tournaments.

Seventy-five percent of the proceeds remaining after the payment of prizes would be required to go to the charity designated in the license application already submitted to the Chief of the State Police. The bill provides that the Chief of the State Police may only retain revenue from license fees in an amount to cover administration of tournament games. License fees collected in excess of those used to defray administrative costs are divided between the River Valley Technology Center, the Fractionation Development Center and the General Fund.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-267)

This amendment removes the reference to municipal approval and replaces it with local governing authority approval in reference to the requirements to be met before the Chief of the State Police will consider an application for a tournament game license. This amendment also removes the River Valley Technology Center as a recipient of surplus fees from tournament game licenses. Under this amendment the 20% that would have gone to the River Valley Technology Center will be credited to the General Fund.

Enacted Law Summary

Public law 2007, chapter 205 creates a new tournament game license where an entry fee would be paid per person to participate in the tournament plus a license fee. The winner of the tournament would receive 75% of the entry fees as the winning prize.

The law authorizes the Chief of the State Police to issue a tournament game license to organizations that are eligible to conduct beano and games and games of chance and have first received approval from the local governing board. The maximum entry fee would be \$100 and the maximum number of players would be 100. The bill provides for an additional license fee of \$5 per person. An organization would be limited to one tournament license per month. Tokens or chips would be used during the course of play and the tournament must be completed within 48 hours. Lucky-seven or similar sealed tickets would be permitted to be sold at these tournaments.

Seventy-five percent of the proceeds remaining after the payment of prizes would be required to go to the charity designated in the license application already submitted to the Chief of the State Police. The bill provides that the Chief of the State Police may only retain revenue from license fees in an amount to cover administration of tournament games. License fees collected in excess of those used to defray administrative costs are divided so that 40% is distributed to the Fractionation Development Center and 60% to the General Fund.

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LD 914 An Act To Extend the Hours for Sale and Delivery of Alcohol

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON MARRACHE	ONTP	

This bill amends the general provisions of the laws governing the sale of alcoholic beverages. It extends the hours of sale by allowing liquor licensees to sell or deliver liquor from 6 a.m. on any day until 3 a.m. of the following day. Current law allows liquor licensees to sell or deliver liquor from 6 a.m. on any day until 1 a.m. of the following day.

LD 915 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Bingo

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EDGECOMB SCHNEIDER	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill increases the stakes in a winner-take-all round of bingo from \$500 to \$750. The bill also increases the value of a single prize in a game of bingo from \$1,400 to \$2,000. The bill also allows an organization licensed to operate beano or bingo games to use part of the proceeds to defray the expense of advertising.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-207)

This amendment, which was not adopted, reduces the prize increase proposed by the bill for a beano event. The amendment establishes the total prize limit at \$1,600. The amendment also clarifies the provision that permits a beano or bingo licensee to use proceeds from the game to defray the cost of advertising to specify that it is advertising of licensed beano or bingo games.

LD 994 An Act To Make Minor Changes to the Gambling Control Board Laws

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERRY J	ONTP	

This bill creates a definition of promotional credit with regard to the laws governing slot machines at commercial tracks. Under this bill, a promotional credit means a non-cashable incentive provided by the operator to participants in a rewards program offered by the operator and approved by the Gambling Control Board. The definition further states that promotional credits and wagers as a result of those credits have no value for the purposes of calculating gross or net slot machine income.

This bill also adds to the list of rules required to be adopted by the board, to include marketing programs, promotional credits and temporary licensees subject to a \$100 fee. These rules are routine technical as provided currently in law.

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LD 999 An Act To Improve Transportation for Veterans

P & S 30

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROTUNDO	OTP-AM	S-365 ROTUNDO S-55

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$15,000 per year to support the operating costs of the disabled American veterans transportation network, which provides round-trip transportation services to Veterans' Administration medical facilities.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-55)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-365)

This amendment reduces the annual General Fund appropriations to \$12,500 per year and limits the funding to the 2008-2009 biennium.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 30 makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$12,500 to support the operating costs of the disabled American veterans transportation network, which provides round-trip transportation services to Veterans' Administration medical facilities.

LD 1008 Resolve, Directing the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices To Provide Historical Data Regarding the Receipt and Resolution of Complaints Pertaining to Legislative Ethics Violations

RESOLVE 81

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EDMONDS	OTP-AM	S-228

This bill amends the legislative ethics laws, as recommended by a 15-member study group created during the Second Regular Session of the 122nd Legislature: the Presiding Officers' Advisory Committee on Legislative Ethics. It broadens the definition of "conflict of interest" and increases protection against possible undue influence by Legislators. It also changes the workings of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to require that most commission proceedings on legislative ethics be conducted in public and to allow members of the public to file complaints regarding possible violations of legislative ethics laws. Finally, the bill rearranges, rewrites and edits several provisions of the law to make it easier to read and understand.

Under current law and rules of the Legislature, a Legislator is prohibited from voting on legislation on the grounds of conflict of interest only if the Legislator or certain family members or business associates would derive a unique and distinct benefit from the legislation. This bill proposes that a Legislator faces a conflict of interest in voting if the Legislator or an immediate family member or close economic associate of the Legislator would be benefited or harmed by the legislation to a degree that is significantly greater than similarly situated persons or entities or the Legislator, a member of the Legislator's immediate family or a close economic associate is a member of a small group of persons or entities that derive a significant benefit or harm from the proposed legislation.

The bill revises the limits on Legislators appearing before state agencies. Current law allows Legislators who

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are lawyers or other professional persons to represent clients before state agencies as long as they do not refer to their legislative capacity, but prohibits other Legislators from doing so. This bill prohibits a Legislator from representing a client before a state agency if the Legislator is a member of the joint standing committee with jurisdiction over that state agency. In such instances, a department and its staff would be more likely to know the identity of the Legislator and be influenced in their decision making by the Legislator's influence over the agency's policies and budget. Exceptions to the prohibition are made for representation before courts, uncompensated representation for a constituent and representation involving only the agency's ministerial, nondiscretionary functions.

The bill provides that the committee jurisdiction be determined by definition of the Legislature, including matters such as jurisdiction for purposes of referencing bills or for budget review by a policy committee.

The bill allows members of the public to file complaints alleging a violation of legislative ethics with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. A complaint must relate to a sitting Legislator but may refer to conduct that occurred within 2 years prior to the complaint. The bill requires the commission to conduct an initial review of all complaints in executive session to screen out frivolous or bad-faith accusations. If the commission does not have its full complement of 5 members, the bill proposes that a vote of 2 members would be sufficient to pursue a complaint. Once the commission votes to pursue a complaint, all commission meetings on the complaint must be conducted in public. Current law allows the commission to order a complainant to reimburse the subject of a complaint for costs incurred if the commission finds the complaint to be "groundless and without foundation." The bill changes the standard to "frivolous" complaints and those "filed in bad faith." These standards are more commonly used in courts and other situations. The bill allows a person to appeal a commission order under this provision pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

The bill provides that a complaint and most investigative records relating to the complaint are public records once the commission votes to pursue the complaint. If the commission votes not to pursue the complaint, the complaint and investigative records remain confidential. As under current law, the commission's findings of fact and recommendations are public records. The bill prohibits communication between commission members and a complainant or the subject of a complaint while a complaint is pending before the commission. It also requires the commission to make reasonable efforts to resolve a complaint within 90 days of its filing and replaces current process provisions with a requirement that the commission adopt rules regarding the conduct of its investigations and hearings.

The bill revises the structure of the legislative ethics laws to create a definition of "violation of legislative ethics" and to designate the term "conflict of interest" as referring specifically to conflicts regarding voting or advocating on legislation. Other violations of legislative ethics are specifically set out as under current law, such as "undue influence" and "abuse of position." Rather than referring to these as "conflicts of interest," the bill classifies them as violations of legislative ethics. The law specifically authorizes the commission to hear complaints and make recommendations to the Senate and the House of Representatives regarding these violations of legislative ethics statutes.

The Presiding Officers' Advisory Committee on Legislative Ethics also proposed a number of changes to the Legislature's Joint Rules and the rules of the Senate and the House of Representatives relating to ethics and the process for addressing concerns about ethics. Recommendations for amendments to the rules, which are matters of internal procedure reserved for the House and Senate, will be presented separately from this bill to the Joint Select Committee on Joint Rules for their consideration.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-228)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment creates a resolve that directs the executive director of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to provide historical data regarding complaints received

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about legislative ethics violations during the past 10 years. The resolve requires the report to be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs by February 15, 2008.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 81 directs the executive director of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to provide historical data regarding complaints received about legislative ethics violations during the past 10 years. The resolve requires the report to be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs by February 15, 2008.

LD 1023 An Act To Designate Special Funds To Help Support Maine Military Families

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SCHNEIDER	ONTP	

This bill requires the Lottery Commission, in consultation with Bureau of Veterans Services within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to develop and initiate a lottery game to raise money for the Veterans' Cash Fund that is established by this bill. The bill provides the fund is held separately from other accounts and that its sole purpose is to provide services and benefits to veterans in a manner determined by Bureau of Veterans Services.

LD 1049 An Act To Require Wholesale Distributors of Alcoholic Beverages To Report the Quantity of Liquor Sold to Individual Licensees

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WEBSTER EDMONDS	ONTP	

This bill requires the wholesale distributor of spirits to issue quarterly reports to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations showing the quantity of spirits and fortified wine sold and distributed to each establishment licensed by the State to sell spirits and fortified wine for off-premises consumption in the State. It also requires wholesale distributors of malt liquor, wine and fortified wine to issue quarterly reports to the Department of Public Safety, Division of Liquor Licensing and Compliance showing the quantity of malt liquor, wine and fortified wine sold and distributed to individual off-premises licensees.

LD 1050 An Act To Prohibit Payment for the Gathering of Petition Signatures

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE	ONTP	

This bill amends the laws that govern the circulation of petitions for citizen initiatives and people's veto. The bill prohibits a citizen petition or people's veto applicant from paying or offering to pay compensation to petition circulators.

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LD 1051 An Act To Provide Information to the Public Regarding Lobbying and Lobbyists

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WEBSTER	ONTP	

This bill directs the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to include in the lobbyist docket and the disclosure website, a photograph of the lobbyist and a professional biography including contact information, relevant past professional work, specific issues or specialty and list of companies the lobbyist represents.

This bill also requires a lobbyist, whenever lobbying, to wear a name tag designed by the commission. It requires the commission to design a tag with a distinctive background color and typeface that will allow one to immediately identify someone as a lobbyist.

The bill also requires a lobbyist to disclose his or her name and the company the lobbyist works for and the client the lobbyist represents whenever the lobbyist approaches a legislator.

The proposals made by this bill will be considered with LD 1393 which was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

LD 1058 An Act To Require the Reporting of Executive Branch Lobbying

PUBLIC 373

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CANAVAN MITCHELL	OTP-AM	H-367

Current law provides that "lobbying" means directly communicating with any official of the legislature for the purpose of influencing legislative action. It also includes communication directly with the Governor for the purpose of influencing the approval or veto of a legislative action. The definition provides that these types of communication are lobbying if the person receives compensation or reimbursement for expenditures. The definition includes time spent to prepare and submit oral or written proposals, testimony or analyses concerning a legislative action.

This bill expands the definition by adding communication with a state agency commissioner, a commissioner's designee, or constitutional officer. It further expands the definition with regard to time spent preparing and submitting oral or written proposals, testimony or analyses to include that submitted to an official within the executive branch, a state agency commissioner, commissioner's designee or constitutional officer.

Finally, the bill specifies what lobbying does not include. That provision states that lobbying does not include time spent by any person providing information to or participating in a subcommittee, stakeholder group, task force or other work group regarding a legislative action by the appointment or at the request of the Governor, a Legislator or legislative committee, a constitutional officer, a state agency, commissioner or the chair of a state board or commission as long as the person's regular employment does not otherwise include lobbying.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-367)

This amendment replaces the bill. Like the bill, this amendment includes lobbying of the executive branch in the definition of "lobbying;" however, in order to accomplish this, the amendment establishes a definition for the term "official in the executive branch." The amendment also includes lobbying of constitutional officers in the definition of lobbying. The amendment requires that lobbying of officials in the executive branch be reported separately from lobbying of officials in the legislative branch when lobbyists submit reports to the Commission on Governmental

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Ethics and Election Practices.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 373 expands the definition of lobbying to include lobbying of officials within the executive branch. It also includes lobbying of constitutional officers in the definition of lobbying. The law requires that lobbying of officials in the executive branch be reported separately from lobbying of officials in the legislative branch when lobbyists submit reports to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

LD 1059 An Act To Ban Payment-per-signature for Initiative and Referenda Petition Circulators

ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ADAMS	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill prohibits an applicant for a citizens' initiative or people's veto from paying petition circulators based on the number of signatures gathered.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-209)

This amendment, which was not adopted, clarifies the bill by stating that the provision does not prohibit payment or compensation of petition circulators as long as that payment is not based upon the number of signatures obtained.

LD 1088 An Act To Amend Various Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management Laws

PUBLIC 167

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK MARRACHE	OTP-AM	H-199

This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management:

1. It allows the Commissioner of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to sell additional armories;
2. It implements the recommendations of the Governor's Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery Working Group;
3. It expands the use of the Dam Repair and Reconstruction Fund to pay for emergency costs incurred for actions taken to protect life and property in emergency situations; and
4. It affects the tuition waiver benefit for spouses and dependents of veterans by:
 - A. Requiring at least 5 years of marriage by a veteran to the parent of a veteran's stepchild before the stepchild is eligible for education benefits;
 - B. Limiting to 8 semesters, which must be completed within 10 years, the benefit provided to spouses of veterans; and
 - C. Requiring the child of a veteran to maintain a "C" or better average to continue to receive benefits.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-199)

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This amendment removes the authority to sell the armory in Brewer as provided in the bill. It also defines "emergency management exercise" and requires the Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency to develop and conduct a program of annual emergency management exercises. This amendment also authorizes the Maine Veterans' Homes to develop community outpatient clinics as well as hospice and housing facilities for veterans. The amendment also clarifies who the Maine Veterans' Homes support and care for as their primary purpose.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 167 makes the following changes to the laws governing the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management:

1. It allows the Commissioner of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to sell armories in Bath, Portland, Westbrook, Presque Isle and Caribou;
2. It implements the recommendations of the Governor's Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery Working Group;
3. It expands the use of the Dam Repair and Reconstruction Fund to pay for emergency costs incurred for actions taken to protect life and property in emergency situations; and
4. It affects the tuition waiver benefit for spouses and dependents of veterans by:
 - A. Requiring at least 5 years of marriage by a veteran to the parent of a veteran's stepchild before the stepchild is eligible for education benefits;
 - B. Limiting to 8 semesters, which must be completed within 10 years, the benefit provided to spouses of veterans; and
 - C. Requiring the child of a veteran to maintain a "C" or better average to continue to receive benefits.

This law also defines "emergency management exercise" and requires the Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency to develop and conduct a program of annual emergency management exercises. This law authorizes the Maine Veterans' Homes to develop community outpatient clinics as well as hospice and housing facilities for veterans. Chapter 167 also clarifies who the Maine Veterans' Homes support and care for as their primary purpose.

LD 1121 An Act To Provide That Lottery Proceeds Be Devoted to Public or Charitable Uses

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS P	ONTP	

This bill amends the law that determines how revenues from the Maine State Lottery are appropriated. This bill provides that after prize payments and covering the cost of administrative expenses, revenues from the lottery will be divided equally among 20 state funds, nonprofit organizations, charities and scholarships. The bill repeals the provision that creates a separate game for the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund but includes the fund among the list of those that will receive lottery revenue.

LD 1124 An Act To Create an Ownership Interest in Agency Liquor Store Licenses

PUBLIC 117

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE EDMONDS	OTP-AM	H-116

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Current law provides that an agency store license, a license to sell spirits as an agent of the state that controls the sale of spirits, is not transferable but allows for someone to take over the license temporarily until a new licensee is selected. In this event, the bureau would post notice of an available license and accept applications. The bureau selects a new licensee based on criteria established in law. It may or may not be the temporary license holder.

This bill requires the transfer of an agency liquor store license if the new owner meets the eligibility qualifications that license applicants are required to meet and if the physical premises of the establishment remains unchanged.

The initial license fee in current law for an agency liquor store is \$2000. Under this bill, the same fee would apply to a transferee. Renewal license fees are \$300 annually.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-116)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 117 requires the transfer of an agency liquor store license if the new owner meets the eligibility qualifications that license applicants are required to meet and if the physical premises of the establishment remain unchanged.

LD 1136 An Act To Amend the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices' Appointment Process

PUBLIC 252

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CANAVAN EDMONDS	OTP-AM	H-336

This bill requires the parties to submit a list of nominees for a vacancy on the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices within 60 days of the vacancy or the Governor has the power within 30 days after to appoint a nominee as the Governor determines.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-336)

This amendment replaces the proposal made by the bill that would have required the Governor to appoint a candidate to fill a vacancy for the 5th member of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices if the leaders of each party from both bodies of the Legislature fail to provide a jointly derived list of 3 qualified candidates within 60 days of the vacancy's being created. The amendment provides that if the jointly derived list is not presented to the Governor within 60 days of the vacancy's being created, then within the subsequent 15 days each party from both bodies of the Legislature shall present a separate list to the Governor, who shall appoint a candidate within 30 days of receiving the lists.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 252 establishes a process to fill a vacancy for the 5th member of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices if the leaders of each party from both bodies of the Legislature fail to provide a jointly derived list of 3 qualified candidates within 60 days of the vacancy's being created, as required by current law. Chapter 252 provides that if the jointly derived list is not presented to the Governor within 60 days of the vacancy's being created, then within the subsequent 15 days each party from both bodies of the Legislature shall present a separate list to the Governor, who shall appoint a candidate within 30 days of receiving the lists.

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LD 1150 An Act To Establish Random Audits of Voting Machines

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PINGREE EDMONDS		

This bill establishes a procedure for regular scientific audits of the State's election machinery on a biennial basis, by means of manually recounting the ballots of a random sample of all voting machines in the State. The bill also establishes an escalating recount procedure in the event that unacceptable discrepancies are discovered during the random sample recount process, and it mandates the regular statistical analysis of those discrepancies. This bill establishes the Maine Electoral Transparency Fund to provide reimbursement for costs incurred in performing the recounts. Resources of the fund come from an income tax check off and voluntary contributions.

LD 1150 was carried over pursuant to Joint Order, HP 1369.

LD 1232 An Act To Limit the Duration of the Placement of Campaign Signs

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VALENTINO	ONTP	

This bill reduces the time period during which campaign signs may be placed in a public way from 6 weeks to 15 days before the election. It maintains the provision that they be removed no later than one week after the election.

LD 1233 An Act To Amend Requirements for Participation of Gubernatorial Candidates under the Maine Clean Election Act

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VALENTINO	ONTP	

Under current law, in order to qualify under the Maine Clean Election Act, a participating candidate for Governor must obtain qualifying contributions from at least 2,500 verified registered voters. This bill increases the number of necessary qualifying contributions to 3,500. In addition, this bill requires that a participating candidate for Governor raise seed money contributions totaling at least \$10,000.

The proposals made by this bill were considered in a larger comprehensive bill regarding campaign finance and the Maine Clean Election Act, LD 1854.

LD 1251 An Act To Establish the Crime of Political Libel BY REQUEST

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVAGE C	ONTP	

This bill establishes the Class E crime of political libel. A person commits political libel if that person makes or publishes any false statement or charge reflecting on any candidate's character or morality or knowingly misrepresents the voting record or position on public issues of any candidate and makes such a statement or

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representation with knowledge of its falsity or with a reckless disregard as to whether it is true or not.

LD 1260 An Act To Create an Animal Welfare Lottery Game

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERCY	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill amends the law governing the powers and duties of the lottery commission. It requires the commission to work with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources (DAFRR) to develop an animal welfare lottery game. Lottery agents who sell this ticket would receive a commission at 1% point higher than that applied to other lottery tickets. Sales of the tickets would be divided among the General Fund, which would receive one-third and DAFRR which would receive two-thirds. The amount to go to DAFRR would be divided equally between the program to provide subsidies to low income persons for spaying and neutering companion animals and to the animal welfare program.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-208)

This amendment, which was not adopted, adds a section to the bill that adds the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources' animal welfare program and the Companion Animal Sterilization Fund to the list of entities that receive revenue from lottery ticket sales.

LD 1273 An Act To Increase Beano Revenue

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EATON	ONTP	

This bill increases the maximum payout in winner-take-all-beano rounds from \$500 to \$1,200. It also directs the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police to amend its rules pertaining to games of chance so that lucky seven or similar sealed tickets may contain up to 30,000 tickets.

LD 1283 An Act To Prevent Retailers from Selling Liquor below Cost

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERRY J	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill prohibits an agency liquor store or any other retailer from selling liquor at retail sale for less than the cost of that liquor to that agency liquor store or retailer. The bill provides that a violation of this provision is a civil violation for which a fine of not more than \$500 may be adjudged.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-93)

This amendment, which was not adopted, changes the provision in the bill that would prohibit the sale of liquor below cost. Under the amendment, the provision would apply only to malt liquor and wine sold for consumption off-premises. The amendment specifies that a licensee may not sell malt liquor or wine at a retail price that is less than the cost to the licensee to purchase that malt liquor or wine from a wholesaler.

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LD 1306 An Act To Protect against Discrimination in Housing

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BARTLETT	ONTP	

This bill prohibits a landlord from seeking more than 2 years of credit history on a person who is a recipient of housing subsidies.

LD 1315 An Act To Amend the Wine License Laws

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIEH	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

This bill creates an exception to the current regulatory three-tier system that prohibits a manufacturer of alcoholic beverages from also having an interest in a retail establishment where alcoholic beverages are sold. This bill makes a specific exception that allows a person who owns a farm winery to be granted a retail wine license.

**LD 1316 An Act To Define Campaign Communications Requiring Matching
Clean Election Funding**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACDONALD	ONTP	

This bill requires matching funds be disbursed to a candidate certified under the Maine Clean Election Act in the amount of the cost of a political communication that contains the name or photograph of the candidate's opponent.

**LD 1317 An Act To Require a Minimum Number of Votes in a Primary To
Continue To Qualify as a Maine Clean Election Act Candidate**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PENDLETON	ONTP	

This bill provides that in order to continue to be a certified candidate for State Senator or State Representative under the Maine Clean Election Act, such a certified candidate who participates in a primary election must receive at least 25 votes in that primary election.

The proposal made by this bill was considered with a comprehensive bill on campaign finance and the Maine Clean Election Act, LD 1854.

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LD 1328 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Limit the Frequency with which an Issue May Appear on the Ballot as a Result of a Direct Initiative

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROWNE	ONTP	

This resolution proposes amending the Constitution of Maine to provide that, if a direct initiative is submitted to the electors and it fails to receive the number of votes necessary for enactment, the same or substantially the same measure may not be proposed through a direct initiative for the following 5 years.

LD 1341 An Act To Clarify Restrictions on Accepting Campaign Contributions Laws

PUBLIC 279

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS J	OTP-AM	H-337

This bill amends the laws governing legislative ethics and the prohibition against campaign contributions from and solicitations of a lobbyist, lobbyist associate or employer during legislative session. It specifies that during the time period from January 1st to June 15th such contributions or solicitations are prohibited. This provision would be in addition to what current law provides which is a prohibition when the Legislature is in session. It also includes seed money contributions collected as part of the certification process for Maine Clean Election Act would be prohibited. Current law provides that qualifying contributions required by the Maine Clean Election Act are permitted and that is not changed by this bill.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-337)

This amendment strikes the provision in the bill that prohibits receipt and solicitation of contributions from lobbyists until June 15th. Current law provides that receipt and solicitation of contributions from lobbyists is prohibited during legislative session except during the period after the filing deadline as a candidate for election, March 15th. This amendment removes that exception so that receipt and solicitation of contributions from lobbyists would be prohibited at any time during legislative session.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 279 specifies that receipt and solicitation of contributions from lobbyists is prohibited at any time during a legislative session.

LD 1362 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Municipal Elections

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN	ONTP	

This bill provides that recounts for elections at the municipal level will be subject to the same process for state-level recounts. The bill provides when a deposit is not required for recounts based on vote tabulations and the total number of votes cast. Beyond those exceptions, the Secretary of State determines the amount of deposit which must be 50% of the reasonable estimate of the cost to the Secretary of State to perform the recount.

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LD 1393 An Act Regarding Lobbyist Disclosure

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>

This bill amends the definition of "expenditure" and adds the term "domestic partner" in the definition of "immediate family" in the laws governing lobbyist disclosure procedures. It repeals the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 315, which was replaced by section 315-A. It provides the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices the authority to audit and investigate information contained in lobbyists' and employers' registrations and reports and grants the commission subpoena power to accomplish this.

LD 1393 was carried over pursuant to Joint Order, HP 1369. It will be used as a vehicle to consider proposals regarding lobbying and lobbyist disclosure made by other bills that were voted ought not to pass.

LD 1394 An Act Regarding Campaign Finance Disclosure by Political Action Committees

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>

This bill defines a political action committee as an organization whose major purpose is to influence elections and that raises or spends more than \$1,500 to influence an election. The definition also includes a separate or segregated fund established to influence elections. The bill also requires that an organization that does not have a major purpose to influence elections form an affiliated political action committee if the organization spends more than \$5,000 in any calendar year to influence an election. The bill also establishes how a political action committee affiliated with another organization must report contributions, funds transfers and donated staff time from that organization. The bill repeals the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, section 1056-B, which required reports from any person other than a political action committee than raised or spent more than \$1,500 to influence an election.

LD 1394 was carried over pursuant to Joint Order, HP 1369. It will be considered along with proposals made by other bills, voted ought not to pass, that address political action committees and organizations that fall under the reporting requirements of Title 21-A, section 1056-B.

LD 1397 An Act To Allow Nonprofit Organizations and Indian Tribes To Sponsor Texas Hold 'Em Tournaments

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL	ONTP	

This bill allows nonprofit organizations and federally recognized Indian tribes to hold Texas hold 'em poker tournaments in which the licensee may keep up to 25% of the entrance fee and 75% of the fee must go to prizes for winners of the tournament. Of the remaining fee after the prizes are paid, 75% must go to the Maine State Grant Program. A licensee may hold no more than 3 tournaments a week with an entrance fee of \$50, may hold a super tournament once a month with an entrance fee of \$75 and a giant tournament twice a year with an entrance fee of \$100. The bill allows any tournament to conduct a subtournament of eliminated participants that must start within 2 hours of the original tournament. The entrance fee may not exceed 50% of the fee for the original tournament.

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LD 1422 An Act To Allow Nonprofit Organizations To Operate Certain Games of Chance without a License

PUBLIC 254

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DIAMOND	OTP-AM	S-168

Current law requires a license for any game of chance where a person pays up to \$1 for a chance to play and may receive a prize of money or something of value.

This bill provides that a license to hold, conduct or operate a game of chance is not required of a bona fide nonprofit charitable, educational, political, civic, recreational, fraternal, patriotic or religious organization or an auxiliary of any of these organizations if all of the prizes awarded in that game of chance are non-monetary with a value of under \$10 and a chance costs \$1 or less.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-168)

This amendment replaces the bill, which allowed for the operation of games of chance by a nonprofit organization without a license. The amendment instead provides that certain games of chance that are intended for play by children at festival-style events may be operated by persons under 16 years of age and may be played by persons under 16 who are not accompanied by an adult. This exception to current law and rule would apply only to games in which a nonmonetary prize valued at less than \$10 is awarded for every chance played and would require approval from the Chief of the State Police.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 254 provides that certain games of chance that are intended for play by children at festival-style events may be operated by persons under 16 years of age and may be played by persons under 16 who are not accompanied by an adult. This exception to current law and rule would apply only to games in which a nonmonetary prize valued at less than \$10 is awarded for every chance played and would require approval from the Chief of the State Police.

LD 1497 An Act To Improve Local Control over Bars

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STRIMLING	ONTP	

This bill amends a section of law that applies generally to all licensees and governs the hours during which liquor may be sold. This bill adds a provision to that law that would permit a municipality to enact a local ordinance that establishes different closing times. It also provides that when a municipality is considering the issuance, transfer or renewal of a license, it may not use as justification for denial non-compliance with a municipal "closing time" ordinance.

LD 1498 An Act To Prohibit Out-of-state Corporations from Contributing to State and County Elections

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BOWMAN	ONTP	

This bill prohibits a contribution to a county or state election for an initiative, referendum or candidacy for political office by an out-of-state corporation and provides for a suit by a citizen of the State or the Attorney General, with

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damages if the out-of-state corporation loses to equal 10 times the amount of the contribution.

LD 1499 An Act To Improve the Maine Clean Election Act

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DIAMOND	ONTP	

This bill makes the following changes to the Maine Clean Election Act.

1. It increases the number of qualifying contributions that a candidate for the State Senate must collect from 150 to 300.
2. It prohibits the use of revenues that a candidate receives from the Maine Clean Election Fund from being used for meals or for maintenance of motor vehicles.
3. It permits a Maine Clean Election Act candidate to accept the offer of an organization that is independent of the candidate and the candidate's committee to send a mailing.

The proposals in this bill were considered in a larger, comprehensive bill that addressed campaign finance and the Maine Clean Election Act, LD 1854.

LD 1507 An Act Regarding Political Activities of Corporations

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STRIMLING	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	

This bill amends a section of statute governing the general powers of corporations. It specifies that a corporation may not take part in a political debate or campaigns or support political parties or candidates except as authorized by law. It also states that a corporation may not participate in a public initiative or referendum that does materially affect the property, business or assets of the corporation.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-187)

This amendment, which was not adopted, is the majority report of the committee. It strikes political debate from the list of political activities that corporations would be prohibited from taking part in as proposed by the bill.

LD 1522 An Act To Modify the Citizen Initiative Process

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TURNER	ONTP	

This bill amends the statutes that set up a statutory framework for the Constitutionally-provided citizen initiative process. The bill requires the Secretary of State to request assistance from the Office of Fiscal and Program Review in determining whether a direct initiative will have a fiscal impact. If the Office of Fiscal and Program Review determines that the direct initiative has a cost other than the cost associated with conducting a referendum on the direct initiative, the person who submitted the direct initiative must indicate in a subsequent draft of the direct initiative submitted to the Secretary of State how the cost of the direct initiative will be paid. The bill also requires

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the Secretary of State to include information on the cost of the direct initiative and how that cost will be paid in the ballot question.

LD 1547 An Act To Prohibit a Maine Clean Election Act Candidate from Recruiting a Primary Opponent

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HINCK	ONTP	

This bill prohibits a Maine Clean Election Act candidate or a candidate who is seeking to become a Maine Clean Election Act candidate from directly or indirectly recruiting or attempting to recruit an opposing candidate in a primary election.

The proposal in this bill was considered as part of a larger comprehensive bill addressing campaign finance and the Maine Clean Election Act, LD 1854.

LD 1548 An Act Concerning Nonprofit Political Action Committees

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE	ONTP	

This bill includes nonprofit entities in the laws governing required reporting by political action committees.

LD 1549 An Act Concerning Voter Registration

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FITTS	ONTP	

This bill prohibits a person from voting in an election if the person registers to vote within 5 days of the election.

LD 1561 An Act To Eliminate the Placement of Campaign Signs on Public Property

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FINCH	ONTP	

This bill repeals the authority to erect campaign signs on public property.

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LD 1562 An Act To Restrict the Placement of Political Signs by Requiring Permission

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VALENTINO	ONTP	

This bill authorizes a landowner whose property abuts a right of way to remove a political sign from in front of their property if it was placed there without permission.

LD 1577 An Act To Address the Pervasive Effect of Substance Abuse in Maine

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WEBSTER	ONTP	

This bill establishes a definition of importer as a person other than a licensed manufacturer wherever located who imports spirits into the state for sale or use. The bill requires spirits manufacturers and importers to be licensed under a new license fee structure. This license fee structure sets a fee for in-state spirits manufacturers at \$1,000 annually. A separate graduated fee structure is established for out-of-state spirits manufacturers based on annual in-state sales in gallons during the immediately preceding calendar year:

- \$50,000 for 10,000 gallons or greater;
- \$25,000 for greater than 5,000 but less than 10,000 gallons;
- \$5,000 for greater than 1,000 but less than 5,000 gallons; and
- \$1,000 for less than \$1,000.

The bill also establishes an annual license fee for importers of \$5,000 and an additional fee for out-of-state manufacturers with no prior Maine sales at \$10,000.

The bill increases the certificate of approval license fee for malt liquor only from \$600 to \$10,000 per year and for wine only from \$600 to \$5,000 per year. The bill increases the annual license fee for sales representatives from \$50 to \$2500. Wholesale licenses for malt liquor and wine would be increased from \$600 to \$10,000 annually. The effective date for fee increases would be January 1, 2008.

With regard to collection of these increased fees, as well as other fees collected in current law under chapter 51 (special warehouse fee, low alcohol spirits taxes), these fees would be deposited into the General Fund and then an equal amount appropriated to the Office of Substance Abuse. The bill requires that such funds would be required to use for substance abuse prevention, case treatment, management, monitoring, enforcement programs and drug courts.

The bill provides that the bureau may adopt routine technical rules to administer the chapter.

LD 1607 An Act To Establish a Fund to Provide American Flags at Veterans' Graves

**PUBLIC 368
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANSLEY	OTP-AM	H-319 H-361 RINES

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to establish a fund to purchase American flags to be given to individual family members or other nonprofit associations for placement upon veterans' graves at veterans' cemeteries in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-319)

This amendment replaces the bill, which was a concept draft. This amendment establishes a flag placement program that requires the director of the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System to permit volunteers to place flags on veterans' graves from 2 days before to 3 days after Memorial Day. Under this program the director of the cemetery system may accept private donations of flags, tools and other equipment necessary to provide for the placement of flags. The amendment establishes a fund to carry out the purposes of the program. The fund may accept appropriations from the General Fund as well as private donations. The amendment also makes a minor technical change to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 37-B, section 504, subsection 5.

House Amendment "A" (H-361)

This amendment was presented on behalf of the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading to prevent a conflict by incorporating a change made to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 37-B, section 504, subsection 5 in Public Law 2007, chapter 167.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 368 establishes a flag placement program that requires the director of the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System to permit volunteers to place flags on veterans' graves from 2 days before to 3 days after Memorial Day. Under this program the director of the cemetery system may accept private donations of flags, tools and other equipment necessary to provide for the placement of flags. Chapter 368 establishes a fund to carry out the purposes of the program. The fund may accept appropriations from the General Fund as well as private donations.

Chapter 368 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 20, 2007.

LD 1643 An Act To Clarify Alcohol Enforcement

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

CAIN

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill allows a minor into a B.Y.O.B. function at an educational institution if accompanied by an adult who is not the minor's parent, legal guardian or custodian if the adult receives permission from the B.Y.O.B. permittee and in writing identifies the minor and the minor's parent, legal guardian or custodian, accepts responsibility for the minor and acknowledges reading the laws concerning prohibitions of minors using alcohol and concerning endangering the welfare of a child, which must be printed on the written statement.

This bill also allows a student performing an official function for the student's school or for an organization officially sanctioned by the school to be present at a B.Y.O.B. function if the student is clearly identified as performing an official function and only while the student is performing the function. Finally, this bill makes an adult who accompanies a minor to a B.Y.O.B. event liable for the crime of endangering the welfare of a child if the minor consumes drugs or alcohol at the event.

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LD 1651 An Act To Permit the Use of Surety Bonds in Lieu of Security Deposits

PUBLIC 370

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HASKELL	OTP	

This bill allows tenants, at their sole option, to purchase surety bonds in lieu of some or all of a required security deposit for the purpose of assisting tenants who have insufficient resources to provide a security deposit for a residential dwelling unit. The bill also sets forth a series of restrictions on the issuance of surety bonds, including required disclosures to tenants, limitations on when and how a landlord can draw upon a surety bond and establishment of a tenant's right of action in the event of wrongful assessment of surety bond.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 370 allows tenants, at their option, to purchase surety bonds in lieu of some or all of a required security deposit for the purpose of assisting tenants who have insufficient resources to provide a security deposit for a residential dwelling unit. The law also sets forth a series of restrictions on the issuance of surety bonds, including required disclosures to tenants, limitations on when and how a landlord can draw upon a surety bond and establishment of a tenant's right of action in the event of wrongful assessment of surety bond.

LD 1679 An Act To Change and Clarify the Maine Clean Election Laws

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SCHNEIDER	ONTP	

This bill extends the period that certain expenditures under the Maine Clean Election Act are deemed independent expenditures from 21 days to 60 days prior to an election. This bill also repeals the provision in the Maine Clean Election Act that gives a longer qualifying period to unenrolled candidates. It also adds a provision to the terms of participation of the Maine Clean Election Act requiring a candidate to maintain the same enrollment status the candidate held at the time of the preceding general election prior to seeking certification as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate. The bill directs the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to adopt rules that will: permit a candidate to reuse campaign signs from a prior election without updating disclaimers; establish an equitable formula for the allowance of travel expenses based on the square miles in a candidate's legislative district; and permit primary funds to be spent during a general election if a candidate was unopposed in the primary. Finally, this bill directs the commission to issue a report that suggests a statutory mechanism for narrowing to one the number of unenrolled gubernatorial candidates that may receive Maine Clean Election Act funds.

LD 1680 An Act To Reform and Simplify the Clean Election Process

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS P	ONTP	

This bill amends the Maine Clean Election Act by combining seed money and qualifying contributions into one qualifying system. Rather than seed money, a candidate would be able to spend qualifying contributions prior to certification as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate. Qualifying contributions, which may be made by either cash or money order under this bill, are defined as any amount between \$5 and \$40 payable to the candidate or the

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campaign and must come from the candidate's district. To be certified as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate, the candidate must raise qualifying contributions in numbers and amounts as follows:

	Minimum number of contributors	Total sum required to qualify
For House	50	\$500
For Senate	150	\$1,500
For Governor	2,500	\$25,000

The number of required contributors remains the same as in present law, but the minimum amount of money required is doubled from \$5 per check to what would be an average of \$10 if only the minimum number were obtained. Each \$5 contribution still counts and contributions up to \$40 are acceptable. Instead of turning checks in to the commission, this bill provides that candidates submit an acknowledgment receipt signed by each contributor as evidence of the payment and support.

Under this bill, initial distributions from the Maine Clean Election Fund to a candidate certified as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate are reduced by one-half of the qualifying contributions collected. Under this bill, the qualifying period would begin on November 1st of the year prior to an election year for candidates for all offices. Current law provides that November 1st is the beginning of the qualifying period for just gubernatorial candidates. The bill repeals a provision that presently allows an unenrolled candidate to receive a distribution equal to a primary or general election campaign distributions in uncontested races if the candidate qualifies before April 15th. For unenrolled candidates, distributions are set at 40% of those available to a party candidate unless the unenrolled candidate obtains a number of contributors equal to 160% of those required for a party candidate. The total dollar sum of contributions required by current law remains the same for party and for unenrolled candidates under this bill.

This bill prohibits a registered voter from making a qualifying contribution to more than one candidate for the same office. This bill removes a provision that permits a candidate to pay the fee for money orders to be used as qualifying contributions since it provides for the authorization of cash transactions for qualifying contributions. The bill provides that no revenue from the Maine Clean Election Fund may be pledged or applied to the collection of qualifying contributions.

This bill expands from 21 days to 42 days the period before an election in which a paid communication is deemed to be an independent expenditure if it clearly identifies a candidate on the ballot.

The bill also adds a private funding option for candidates. Before April 15th of an election year, a candidate whose campaign is supported by private contributions may request that the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices provide matching fund protections of the Maine Clean Election Act if the candidate agrees to limit and does, in fact, limit campaign contributions and expenditures to the amount that would be authorized for distribution to the candidate if the candidate were qualified as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate. A candidate making such an election is entitled to public matching funds in the same manner as a qualified Maine Clean Election Act candidate.

This bill was considered with a larger comprehensive bill that addressed campaign finance and the Maine Clean Election Act, LD 1854.

LD 1682 An Act To Improve Maine's Clean Election Law

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

RAYE

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

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This bill requires that:

1. A candidate for Governor must raise at least \$35,000 in seed money contributions to qualify as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate;
2. A candidate for the state Senate must raise at least \$1,000 in seed money contributions to qualify as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate; and
3. A candidate for the state House of Representatives must raise at least \$350 in seed money contributions to qualify as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate.

This bill was considered with a larger comprehensive bill that addressed campaign finance and the Maine Clean Election Act, LD 1854.

LD 1688 An Act To Allow the Use of Credit Cards To Purchase Wine, Beer and Spirits from Distributors

ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PLOWMAN	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill amends the current law that requires shipments of alcoholic beverages to be paid for in full, in cash at the time of delivery. This law applies to the state's spirits wholesaler who sells to state agency stores, state agency stores who are reselling agents and supply bars and restaurants and beer and wine wholesalers who supply on-premises and off-premises licensees.

This bill, as it amends current law, would provide that the spirits wholesaler may accept payment by credit card and that reselling agents and beer/wine wholesalers may only accept payment in the form of cash, check, electronic funds transfer or credit card.

LD 1704 An Act To Make Changes in the Laws Regarding Raffles

PUBLIC 378

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRYANT M	OTP-AM	H-457

Current law permits raffles to be sold during the one hour period before a beano game. This bill extends that timeframe so that raffles may be sold for one hour after the game begins (thus, during beano play). It also provides that a raffle for a prize valued at greater than \$10,000 but less than \$75,000 may be divided into multiple drawings not to go beyond 1 year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-457)

This amendment strikes a provision in the bill that permits raffle tickets to be sold up to one hour after a beano game as an exception to current law. This amendment specifies that multiple drawing raffles are progressive raffles that are divided into a maximum of 12 drawings with previous entries rolled into subsequent drawings.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 378 provides for multiple drawing raffles and specifies that they are progressive raffles that are divided into a maximum of 12 drawings with previous entries rolled into subsequent drawings.

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LD 1723 An Act To Streamline the Beano Laws

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRYANT M	ONTP	

This bill amends current law to allow different organizations to conduct beano games at the same location on the same day. Current law provides that no more than one game may be conducted at any one place on a given day. It also extends the time at the beginning of beano games when games of chance may be sold from one hour to 2 hours. This bill increases the prize limit on individual games from \$400 to \$500.

Current rules prohibit beano workers from assisting players by playing their cards except the law provides for an exception for restroom breaks. This bill allows beano workers to assist players by marking their beano cards when the players have to leave their seats for a smoke or refreshment break.

Finally, this bill directs the Chief of the State Police to make certain changes to the rules pertaining to the conduct of beano games, including permitting the licensee to reserve seats at a beano game for parties of 10 or more, allowing additional cards to be distributed during the middle of a game, charging for beano cards based on the retail value of individual games and to charge a fee for the use or exchange of electronic beano daubers. Current rule prohibits changing or purchasing new cards once beano play has commenced.

LD 1724 An Act To Strengthen the Maine Clean Election Act

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CUMMINGS	ONTP	

This bill amends the Maine Clean Election Act by increasing the number of qualifying contributions required of a gubernatorial candidate for certification from 2,500 to 3,250 and requiring that candidate to raise at least \$15,000 in seed money. The bill amends the definition of a qualifying contribution to state that the \$5 donation may be made to only one candidate seeking the gubernatorial election or one candidate in a particular legislative election. It extends the authority to certify candidates as Maine Clean Election Act candidates to the executive director of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. This bill adds to the requirements for certification and provides for circumstances under which the commission or its executive director may revoke certification of a Maine Clean Election Act candidate and require the return of Maine Clean Election Act funds. Finally, this bill removes language designating rules adopted under the Maine Clean Election Act as major substantive rules.

The proposals in this bill were considered with a large comprehensive bill addressing campaign finance and the Maine Clean Election Act, LD 1854.

LD 1729 An Act To Allow Contributors to Candidates Financed by the Maine Clean Election Fund To Submit Qualifying Contributions Online

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TRINWARD	ONTP	

This bill allows a qualifying contribution under the Maine Clean Election Act to be paid by a credit card over the Internet. The proposal in this bill was considered with a large comprehensive bill addressing campaign finance and the Maine Clean Election Act, LD 1854.

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LD 1740 An Act To Amend the Maine Clean Election Act

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PLOWMAN	ONTP	

This bill increases the contribution limits in current law for legislative and gubernatorial candidates. Under this bill, individuals may make contributions aggregating up to \$1,000 for a gubernatorial candidate, \$750 to a candidate for the state Senate and \$500 to a candidate for the state House of Representatives. This bill specifies that seed money contributions for a candidate seeking certification as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate must come from voters within the candidate's voting district and that a minimum amount must be collected in order to become certified as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate.

The bill also changes current law to exclude the distribution of matching funds in primary elections. Finally, this bill includes seed money raised by a Maine Clean Election Act candidate in the formula used to determine whether a candidate may receive matching funds.

The proposals in this bill were considered with a large comprehensive bill addressing campaign finance and the Maine Clean Election Act, LD 1854.

LD 1744 An Act To Join the Interstate Compact on the National Popular Vote

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN		

This bill proposes to adopt the interstate compact that is the agreement among the states to elect the President of the United States by national popular vote. Under the compact and the bill, the presidential candidate who receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia will win the presidency. Under this bill, all of the state's electoral votes would be awarded to the presidential candidate who receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

This bill would take effect only when enacted by states possessing a majority of the electoral votes, that is, enough electoral votes to elect a President, which is 270 of 538.

LD 1744 was carried over pursuant to Joint Order, HP 1369.

LD 1757 An Act To Establish a Pricing Formula for Liquor Sales and To Adjust Agent Discounts

DIED IN CONCURRENCE

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to establish a pricing formula for liquor sales and to adjust agent discounts. The pricing formula should promote transparency, enhance market predictability, promote fairness and increase Maine's competitiveness with neighboring states. Agent discounts should increase incrementally, be funded through increased revenues and other sources and be revenue-neutral to the

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State.

LD 1761 An Act To Amend the Election Laws

PUBLIC 455

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK	OTP-AM	H-489 S-389 MARTIN

This bill adds a definition for "domestic partner" and includes a domestic partner in the definition of "immediate family." The bill also adds definitions for "voting booth," "voting station," "accessible voting system" and "voting system." The bill clarifies who is ineligible to serve as registrar of voters. It also makes changes to the process for a voter registration appeals hearing by specifying the minimum time period for written notice, establishing that the hearing is a de novo hearing and requiring that a voter be kept in the central voter registration system and allowed to cast a challenged ballot until the appeals are exhausted. The bill specifies that a person loses a voting residence when that person registers to vote in another state. It also clarifies the requirements for the name by which a voter may register to vote and for how a candidate's name may be listed on a state ballot. The bill clarifies the requirements for change of enrollment, including the restrictions during the 15-day period until the change becomes effective. The bill also makes the language on prohibited party names or political designations consistent with other laws on prohibited names. The bill prohibits a candidate from withdrawing less than 60 days before a primary or general election. The bill clarifies the Secretary of State's authority to determine the format of all instructional election materials. The bill clarifies that the requirements for providing test ballots apply to other voting devices, such as the accessible voting system. It also clarifies that the minimum requirement to allow one poll watcher from each of the qualified parties applies to each segment of the incoming voting list if the municipality divides the list by voting district or by the alphabetic listing of the voters' names. This bill clarifies the requirements for the accessible voting system and prohibits the municipality from using the accessible voting system for purposes other than voting. This bill also clarifies the process for establishing and consolidating voting places, as distinct from the process of establishing or consolidating voting districts. It also clarifies the process for facilitating a voter's use of the accessible voting system. The bill clarifies how a voter may receive assistance from another person in voting. This bill clarifies the process for an election official to challenge a voter as well as the process for the registrar to resolve the status of challenged voters after the election. The bill eliminates the use of stickers for write-in candidates at a primary election. It also changes the deadline for a write-in candidate to file a declaration of write-in candidacy to 5 p.m. on the 3rd business day prior to the election and provides that a write-in vote may not be counted as valid unless the name is of a person who has filed a declaration of write-in candidacy by the deadline. This bill restricts absentee voting on the day before election day and on election day to ballots requested in writing and issued for voting outside the presence of the clerk and further provides that a clerk does not have to issue a ballot by mail if the request is received on election day or on the day before election day if the voter is outside the municipality.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-489)

This amendment removes the provision of the bill that amends the definition of "immediate family" to include a domestic partner as that amendment has already been enacted by another bill. The amendment adds clarifying language to the prohibition in the bill that a registrar may not serve during an election period if a member of the registrar's immediate family is a candidate for office in the electoral division in which the registrar serves. The clarification states that the election period is the time beginning when the immediate family member becomes a candidate up until the election.

The amendment also removes provisions in the bill regarding change of enrollment in a party including a provision that would require a replacement candidate to be enrolled in the same party as the person that candidate is replacing on the day that candidate is nominated.

The amendment also removes a provision that would have the warden reject an absentee ballot that was given

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to a voter from a different district and replaces it with a provision that allows the correct portions of the ballot to be counted but requires it to be challenged for the purposes of a subsequent recount or disputed election. This amendment removes a section of current law that would prohibit the counting of absentee ballots of voters who die after submitting the ballot. The amendment also sets up a system for municipalities that wish to process absentee ballots the day before election day. Additionally, the amendment changes the date of the implementation of an early voting pilot program from November 2008 to November 2007.

Finally, the amendment also removes a provision in the bill that would have reclassified certain crimes related to citizen initiative and referendum provisions from Class E to Class D crimes.

Senate Amendment "D" (S-389)

This amendment removes language that would have eliminated the use of stickers for write-in candidates but requires the clerk to report to the Secretary of State any problems arising from the use of stickers.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 455 makes several changes to the laws governing elections. It adds definitions for "voting booth," "voting station," "accessible voting system" and "voting system" and clarifies who is ineligible to serve as registrar of voters. It also makes changes to the process for a voter registration appeals hearing by specifying the minimum time period for written notice, establishing that the hearing is a de novo hearing and requiring that a voter be kept in the central voter registration system and allowed to cast a challenged ballot until the appeals are exhausted.

Chapter 455 specifies that a person loses a voting residence when that person registers to vote in another state. It also clarifies the requirements for the name by which a voter may register to vote and for how a candidate's name may be listed on a state ballot and makes the language on prohibited party names or political designations consistent with other laws on prohibited names. This law prohibits a candidate from withdrawing less than 60 days before a primary or general election and clarifies the Secretary of State's authority to determine the format of all instructional election materials.

Chapter 455 clarifies that the requirements for providing test ballots apply to other voting devices, such as the accessible voting system. It also clarifies that the minimum requirement to allow one pollwatcher from each of the qualified parties applies to each segment of the incoming voting list if the municipality divides the list by voting district or by the alphabetic listing of the voters' names. This law also clarifies the requirements for the accessible voting system and prohibits the municipality from using the accessible voting system for purposes other than voting and clarifies the process for establishing and consolidating voting places, as distinct from the process of establishing or consolidating voting districts. It also clarifies the process for facilitating a voter's use of the accessible voting system and how a voter may receive assistance from another person in voting.

Chapter 455 clarifies the process for an election official to challenge a voter as well as the process for the registrar to resolve the status of challenged voters after the election. It also changes the deadline for a write-in candidate to file a declaration of write-in candidacy to 5 p.m. on the 3rd business day prior to the election and provides that a write-in vote may not be counted as valid unless the name is of a person who has filed a declaration of write-in candidacy by the deadline.

Chapter 455 states that the warden does not need to reject an absentee ballot that was given to a voter from a different district but rather allows the correct portions of the ballot to be counted but requires it to be challenged for the purposes of a subsequent recount or disputed election. Finally, this law sets up a system for municipalities that wish to process absentee ballots the day before election day and changes the date of the implementation of an early voting pilot program from November 2008 to November 2007.

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LD 1779 An Act To Govern Publicly Funded Advertising during Campaigns

**DIED BETWEEN
HOUSES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RAYE	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	

This bill prohibits any candidate for public office from appearing in any television, radio or newspaper advertisement that is paid for by public funds, other than with disbursements from the Maine Clean Election Fund, during the 6 months preceding a primary or general election in which he or she is a candidate.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-246)

This amendment, which was not adopted, replaces the bill. The amendment prohibits a candidate from appearing in radio, television or newspaper advertisements broadcast or published from the time that candidate becomes a candidate up to the election that are paid for, in any amount, by a direct appropriation of state funds. This prohibition does not apply to campaign advertisements paid for by disbursements from the Maine Clean Election Fund.

LD 1783 An Act To Require Photographic Identification in Order To Register To Vote

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PRESCOTT	ONTP	

This bill requires a person, in order to prove residence to a registrar when registering to vote, to show an unexpired or otherwise valid driver's license, a state identification card showing a photograph issued by any state or District of Columbia, a United States Passport or a United States military ID.

LD 1799 An Act To Establish Open Ballot Voting in Maine

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PINGREE		

This bill authorizes cross-endorsement, which is the practice of multiple parties or political designations nominating the same candidate. It eliminates the current rules requiring enrollment in a political party in order to be a candidate for that party's nomination. It also requires the Secretary of State to list on the ballot a candidate nominated by multiple parties or political designations once for each party or political designation. The bill also prevents over votes, which is when a voter marks the same candidate's name multiple times, from invalidating the vote.

This bill also authorizes the formation of official minor political parties and establishes the requirement for formation, continuation and ballot access.

This bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

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LD 1828 An Act To Allow a Casino in Oxford County

ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK BRYANT B	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

Part A of this bill authorizes Evergreen Mountain Enterprises, LLC to operate a gaming facility at a single site in Oxford County, subject to approval of the voters at the general election held in November 2008. The legislative body and voters of any municipality in which the site is located must approve the site for the operation of the gaming facility. The gaming facility is authorized to contain 4,500 slot machines, bazaar games conducted solely for merchandise prizes, lottery games, video facsimiles, card games, table games and other games of chance, including without limitation blackjack, poker, dice, roulette, baccarat, money-wheels and bingo. The minimum age to play a slot machine or gaming device is lowered from 21 years of age to 19 years of age. The bill provides that, other than the approved commercial race tracks in the State that operate slot machines, the gaming facility operated by Evergreen Mountain Enterprises, LLC must be the only gaming facility in the State for at least 10 years. The bill provides for regulation of the gaming facility by the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board. The bill requires the gaming operator to collect and distribute 1% of gross gaming device income to the Treasurer of State for deposit in the General Fund for the administrative expenses of the Gambling Control Board. The gaming operator must pay to the State 39% of the net gaming device income. This money paid to the State must be used for the following purposes:

1. Five percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed to repay student loans of residents of this State;
2. Four percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed to the research and development of an east-west highway in the State;
3. Three percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed to develop and construct a facility to produce biofuels, including fuel for heating homes;
4. Three percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed for revenue sharing with municipalities, with the intent of providing local property tax relief;
5. Two percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed to a Maine prepaid college plan to allow residents of this State to prepay the cost of college tuition, fees and dormitory housing before a child goes to college;
6. Two percent of the net gaming device income must be used to assist the elderly with the cost of prescription drugs;
7. Two percent of the net gaming device income must be used for the improvement of secondary rural roads in the State;
8. Three percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed to make health care more affordable for employees of businesses and the self-employed in this State. This endeavor must include expanding membership in the Dirigo Health Program and allowing such health care to be offered as a self-insured product;
9. Two percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed for the program cost portion of general purpose aid for local schools;
10. Two percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed for the expansion of facilities and course

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selection in the Maine Community College System;

11. One percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed to the Finance Authority of Maine for its NextGen First Step Grant program to assist residents of this State in saving for college tuition;

12. One percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed to towns to be used for regionalization efforts of towns that express interest in reducing and eliminating duplicative municipal services;

13. One percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed to help fund raising the minimum wage to a level comparable with a livable wage for the resident workers in this State of \$7.70 per hour in 2008 and \$8.40 in 2009 and in accordance with the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, CPI-W index, thereafter;

14. One percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed for grants to residents of this State who demonstrate energy efficiency and conservation proficiency, such as rebates for purchasers of hybrid and biodiesel-capable vehicles and biofuel for home and business heating, and grants for residents of this State to develop such clean and efficient fuel technologies;

15. One percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed for the improvement of the water quality of the rivers of this State and the technology to allow paper mills and waste treatment plants to eliminate the toxins they release into rivers;

16. One percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed to public access television stations in this State for the improvement of technology and programming;

17. One percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed for funding residents of this State who are 15 years of age to 30 years of age to support ideas and projects that will stimulate the creative economy in this State, enhance technology, improve civic engagement or otherwise effect positive community change;

18. One percent of the net gaming device income must be distributed for programs to protect gaming patrons against the risks of gambling, including gambling addiction counseling services and monitoring patrons who may be at risk and have a propensity for problem gambling;

19. Two percent of the net gaming device income must be forwarded directly to any municipality in which the gaming facility is located; and

20. One percent of the net gaming device income must be forwarded directly to Oxford County to pay for mitigation of costs resulting from gaming operations.

Part B requires the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board to report by January 15, 2008 to the Governor and the Legislature on including in the board's regulatory authority games of chance and gaming devices other than slot machines. Part B requires another report by the board by March 15, 2008 on the effectiveness of the board in regulating the operation of gaming devices and slot machines.

**LD 1854 An Act Regarding Campaign Finance Reporting and the Maine Clean
Election Act**

PUBLIC 443

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

OTP-AM

S-279

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

Part A makes changes affecting campaign finance reports in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, chapter 13. Specifically, Part A:

1. Amends the definition of "person" to remove the word "group";
2. Eliminates the requirement that the office of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices remain open after 5:00 p.m. on election day;
3. Adds the term "domestic partner" in sections referring to a candidate's spouse and includes a definition for the term in the general definition section for Title 21-A;
4. Exempts lists of registered voters obtained by party committees from the definitions of "contributions" and "expenditures";
5. Includes facilities owned by a candidate's immediate family in determining whether an exception to expenditure is applicable;
6. Clarifies that a state party committee can provide a total of only 20 hours of assistance to a candidate in an election without making a contribution to that candidate and expands the type of service provided from "advice" to "assistance";
7. Allows party candidate listings to treat federal candidates differently from other state candidates if required by federal election law and to include campaign slogans and logos;
8. Eliminates the requirement that Maine Clean Election Act candidates sign and file the voluntary spending limits statement;
9. Requires an outgoing treasurer to certify in writing the accuracy of a campaign's records;
10. Removes the requirement that the address be included in the disclosure statement in campaign communications financed by the candidate that are aired on the radio;
11. Requires that communications that name or depict a clearly identified candidate within 21 days before a primary election or 60 days before a general election contain the disclosure statement, unless the communication's purpose has a purpose other than influencing an election;
12. Extends the prohibition against broadcasting communications without the disclosure statement to agents of a broadcasting station and to online versions of newspapers;
13. Extends the time period during which fines will be assessed for communications that lack the disclosure statement;
14. Establishes disclosure requirements regarding certain automated and live telephone calls to voters;
15. Clarifies that funds that are earmarked for a candidate through a conduit or intermediary are considered contributions to the candidate;
16. Clarifies expenditure limitations in legislative elections;
17. Requires that sole proprietorships and their owners be treated as a single entity for the purposes of contribution limits;

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18. Removes the requirement that federal candidates and state party committees file federal campaign finance reports with the commission;
19. Revises the report filing schedule for candidates, party committees and political action committees to allow the commission to have more complete information upon which to base matching fund calculations;
20. Establishes a single 24-hour reporting requirement applicable to all candidates, party committees and political action committees;
21. Changes the amount of a campaign surplus or deficit from \$50 to \$100 that requires candidates to file semiannual reports with the commission;
22. Requires party committees to retain records of contributions and expenditures and receipts for expenditures;
23. Expands the period during which a communication that names or depicts a clearly identified candidate is presumed to be an independent expenditure to 21 days before a primary election or 60 days before a general election and requires independent expenditure reports to contain a description of the communications made;
24. Increases the fine for not registering as a candidate from \$10 to \$100 and raises the amount of the penalty waiver for a late-filed report for candidates, party committees and political action committees from \$5 to \$10;
25. Clarifies when an electronically submitted or facsimile copy is allowed;
26. Increases the triggering threshold for political action committees from \$50 to \$1,500;
27. Requires political action committees to identify, upon registering, Legislators who have a significant role in fund-raising or decision-making for the committee;
28. Requires political action committees to file an initial campaign finance report upon registering with the commission; and
29. Clarifies the conditions for dissolving a political action committee.

Part B makes changes affecting the Maine Clean Election Act in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, chapter 14. Specifically, Part B:

1. Adds a definition of "immediate family";
2. Clarifies the requirements for a valid qualifying contribution;
3. Requires that seed money come from Maine residents only and adds restrictions in collection and use of seed money;
4. Requires a transfer of funds to the Maine Clean Election Fund on or before September 1st of each year, instead of January 1st, beginning on September 1, 2010;
5. Allows the commission to request an advance on the annual amount to be transferred if there will be insufficient funds for an upcoming election;
6. Clarifies that Maine Clean Election Act funds cannot be used to pay for goods and services received during the qualifying period;

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7. Adds new conditions for certification, including whether a candidate has made material false statements to the commission or has been denied certification or had certification revoked due to substantial violations of election laws;
8. Requires gubernatorial candidates to raise at least \$15,000 in seed money in order to be certified and establishes procedures for the documentation of seed money contributions to gubernatorial candidates seeking certification;
9. Extends the period of time the commission has to certify gubernatorial candidates and allows the commission to take additional time to certify a candidate if a compliance investigation is necessary;
10. Creates a process for the commission to revoke certification;
11. Increases the amount of the initial distribution to a gubernatorial candidate in the general election to \$600,000 and limits the amount of matching to an equivalent amount;
12. Prohibits Maine Clean Election Act candidates from using public funds to pay for services provided by the candidate or immediate family members;
13. Requires the commission staff to audit all gubernatorial candidates who receive Maine Clean Election Act funds and requires gubernatorial candidates and campaign staff to meet with the commission staff in order to discuss spending and record-keeping requirements within one month of the candidate's declaring an intention to seek public financing under the Maine Clean Election Act;
14. Clarifies the matching funds provision to include all contributions and fund distributions in calculating matching funds;
15. Clarifies the amount and timing of distributions to unenrolled candidates; and
16. Updates the provisions regarding appeals from the commission's decisions regarding certification.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-279)

This amendment strikes a provision of the bill that would have provided that the office of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices does not have to be open until 8:00 p.m. on election day. The amendment increases from 20 to 40 the number of hours of assistance party committee employees can provide before such assistance is considered a contribution or an expenditure. The amendment clarifies that the disclosure required for authorized candidate advertisements does not include the address of the person who financed the advertisements whether broadcast on radio or television. The amendment changes from 60 days, as proposed by the bill, to 35 days the period of time before a general election during which there is a rebuttable presumption that a communication clearly depicting a candidate is an independent expenditure. In accordance with that 35-day period, disclosure requirements are triggered at that time for media communications and telephone calls that clearly depict a candidate.

The amendment also changes the time of day that campaign finance reports, with the exception of those required under the accelerated reporting schedule, are due to the commission from 5:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. on the day that they are due. The amendment eliminates the decrease in the dollar amount from \$1,000 to \$500 for expenditures by candidates or party committees made in the last 2 weeks of an election that would trigger 24-hour reports. The amendment removes a provision from the bill that would have required more detailed reporting of independent expenditures and a provision that would increase the fine from \$10 to \$100 for failure to properly register information required of candidates.

The amendment eliminates the provision in the bill that would have required that seed money contributions under the Maine Clean Election Act come from Maine residents and clarifies current seed money restrictions. The

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amendment removes the part of the bill that would transfer General Fund money to the Maine Clean Election Fund in September rather than in January as required by current law. The amendment removes a provision in the bill that would prohibit a Maine Clean Election Act candidate from paying family members services provided to the candidate's campaign.

The amendment increases from 2,500 to 3,250 the number of qualifying contributions a gubernatorial candidate must obtain to become certified, but eliminates the proposal in the bill that would require a gubernatorial candidate to raise a minimum of \$15,000 in seed money contributions. The amendment clarifies an error in the bill with regard to gubernatorial matching funds.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 443 makes several changes to the laws governing campaign finance reporting and the Maine Clean Election Act. It amends the laws on campaign finance reporting as follows:

1. Amends the definition of "person" to remove the word "group";
2. Exempts lists of registered voters obtained by party committees from the definitions of "contributions" and "expenditures";
3. Includes facilities owned by a candidate's immediate family in determining whether an exception to expenditure is applicable;
4. It provides that a state party committee can provide a total of 40 hours of assistance to a candidate in an election without making a contribution to that candidate and expands the type of service provided from "advice" to "assistance";
5. Allows party candidate listings to treat federal candidates differently from other state candidates if required by federal election law and to include campaign slogans and logos;
6. Eliminates the requirement that Maine Clean Election Act candidates sign and file the voluntary spending limits statement;
7. Requires an outgoing treasurer to certify in writing the accuracy of a campaign's records;
8. Removes the requirement that the address be included in the disclosure statement in campaign communications financed by the candidate that are aired via a broadcasting station;
9. Requires that communications that name or depict a clearly identified candidate within 21 days before a primary election or 35 days before a general election contain the disclosure statement, unless the communication's purpose has a purpose other than influencing an election;
10. Extends the time period from 10 to 20 days during which fines will be assessed for communications that lack the disclosure statement;
11. Establishes disclosure requirements regarding certain automated and live telephone calls to voters made 35 days prior to an election;
12. Clarifies that funds that are earmarked for a candidate through a conduit or intermediary are considered contributions to the candidate;
13. Requires that sole proprietorships and their owners be treated as a single entity for the purposes of contribution limits;

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14. Removes the requirement that federal candidates and state party committees file federal campaign finance reports with the commission;
15. Revises the report filing schedule for candidates, party committees and political action committees to allow the commission to have more complete information upon which to base matching fund calculations and provides that in most circumstances, reports are not due to the commission until 11:59pm;
16. Changes the amount of a campaign surplus or deficit from \$50 to \$100 that requires candidates to file semiannual reports with the commission;
17. Requires party committees to retain records of contributions and expenditures and receipts for expenditures;
18. Expands the period during which a communication that names or depicts a clearly identified candidate is presumed to be an independent expenditure to 21 days before a primary election or 35 days before a general election and requires independent expenditure reports to contain a description of the communications made;
19. Raises the amount of the penalty waiver for a late-filed report for candidates, party committees and political action committees from \$5 to \$10;
20. Clarifies when an electronically submitted or facsimile copy is allowed;
21. Corrects an error in the statute that sets the triggering threshold for political action committees from \$50 to \$1,500;
22. Requires political action committees to identify, upon registering, Legislators who have a significant role in fund-raising or decision-making for the committee;
23. Requires political action committees to file an initial campaign finance report upon registering with the commission; and
24. Clarifies the conditions for dissolving a political action committee.

Chapter 443 amends the laws governing the Maine Clean Election Act as follows:

1. Adds a definition of "immediate family";
2. Clarifies the requirements for a valid qualifying contribution;
3. Allows the commission to request an advance on the annual amount to be transferred if there will be insufficient funds for an upcoming election;
4. Clarifies that Maine Clean Election Act funds cannot be used to pay for goods and services received during the qualifying period;
5. Adds new conditions for certification, including whether a candidate has made material false statements to the commission or has been denied certification or had certification revoked due to substantial violations of election laws;
6. Increases the number of qualifying contributions that must be collected by gubernatorial candidates from 2500 to 3250 and clarifies an error in the bill regarding matching funds for gubernatorial candidates;

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7. Extends the period of time the commission has to certify gubernatorial candidates and allows the commission to take additional time to certify a candidate if a compliance investigation is necessary;
8. Creates a process for the commission to revoke certification;
9. Increases the amount of the initial distribution to a gubernatorial candidate in the general election to \$600,000 and limits the amount of matching to an equivalent amount;
10. Requires the commission staff to audit all gubernatorial candidates who receive Maine Clean Election Act funds and requires gubernatorial candidates and campaign staff to meet with the commission staff in order to discuss spending and record-keeping requirements within one month of the candidate's declaring an intention to seek public financing under the Maine Clean Election Act;
11. Clarifies the matching funds provision to include all contributions and fund distributions in calculating matching funds;
12. Clarifies the amount and timing of distributions to unenrolled candidates; and
13. Updates the provisions regarding appeals from the commission's decisions regarding certification.

LD 1857 An Act To Allow Members of the Maine National Guard To Run for Office in a Partisan Public Election

PUBLIC 130

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE	OTP	

This bill exempts members of the Maine National Guard from the law prohibiting an unclassified employee of the executive branch from being a candidate for elective office in a partisan public election.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 130 exempts members of the Maine National Guard from the law prohibiting an unclassified employee of the executive branch from being a candidate for elective office in a partisan public election.

LD 1871 Resolve, Authorizing Municipalities To Consolidate Voting Districts for a Special Election

**RESOLVE 12
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CROCKETT PERRY J	OTP	

This resolve authorizes municipalities to consolidate voting districts for the purpose of holding a special election on bond issues in June of 2007.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 12 authorizes municipalities to consolidate voting districts for the purpose of holding a special election on bond issues in June of 2007.

Chapter 12 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 3, 2007.

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LD 1877 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 3: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions, a Major Substantive Rule of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

**RESOLVE 72
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

OTP

This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 3: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions, a major substantive rule of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 72 approved Major Substantive Rules regarding the Maine Clean Election Act provisionally adopted by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. Those rules contain the following amendments to the Major Substantive Rules in Chapter 3 governing the administration of Maine Clean Election Act:

- Clarifies that any qualifying contributions received more than 5 days before a candidate files a Declaration of Intent with the Commission will not count towards the required minimum;
- Removes the requirement that the candidate identify the treasurer and political committee on the Declaration of Intent;
- Removes the requirement that information about the campaign’s financial institution and the candidate’s social security or tax identification number be disclosed on the Declaration of Intent;
- Requires that the Declaration of Intent include an affirmation that the candidate has read and will comply with the guidelines on using public funds;
- Changes the content of the receipt and acknowledgement form that candidates use in collecting qualifying contributions and signatures by eliminating the requirement for candidates to sign each form separately, and instead requiring candidates to affirm their compliance with all qualifying contribution requirements on a new certification request form;
- Clarifies that the proof of the contributor’s voter registration, (i.e. the signature of the municipal registrar or clerk on the receipt and acknowledgement form) will not be accepted by the Commission after the close of the qualifying period;
- Eliminates the option for candidates to submit photocopies or receipt and acknowledgment forms prior to the deadline of the qualifying period as long as the verified original forms were submitted to the Commission within 10 days after the photocopies were delivered to the Commission;
- Clarifies the procedures for requesting certification as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate;
- Clarifies the process by which matching funds are calculated;
- Requires a campaign treasurer to keep bank account records and vendor invoices and authorizes the Commission to require the return of funds if a candidate or treasurer cannot produce supporting documentation for an expenditure, or otherwise failed to keep records;
- Clarifies that Maine Clean Election Act funds can be commingled with unspent money and that matching funds can only be spent after the candidate receives authorization
- Eliminates the pro rata reimbursement for vehicle travel expense based on actual expenses; and
- Allows primary and general election candidates to reserve \$1000 and \$2500, respectively, to defray the costs associated with an audit.

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This resolve was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 8, 2007.

LD 1879 An Act To Allow Additional Slot Machines at a Harness Horse Racing Track To Support Harness Horse Racing, Passenger and Freight Train Service on the Mountain Division Rail Line and Passenger Train Service Overseen by the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MOORE G SNOWE-MELLO		

This bill permits the operation of additional slot machines at a harness horse racing track in a municipality along the railroad line from Portland to the New Hampshire border overseen by the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority or the railroad line from Portland through Westbrook, Gorham, Standish and Fryeburg to the New Hampshire border known as the Mountain Division rail line. The bill limits the location of the operation of these slot machines to one harness horse racing track and to within 200 feet of the outside edge of the racing oval at that harness horse racing track. A municipality must approve the operation of slot machines before slot machines authorized by this bill may be operated in that municipality.

An entity that operates an agricultural fair or a person licensed to operate a commercial track may apply to the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board no later than December 31, 2009 for a license to operate slot machines authorized by this bill. The Gambling Control Board will choose one applicant to receive the license authorized by this bill. Slot machines authorized by this bill are subject to regulation and supervision by the Gambling Control Board.

The bill is subject to approval by the voters of this State at referendum.

The slot machine operator will be required to collect and distribute 1% of gross slot machine income for deposit in the General Fund. The slot machine operator will be required to collect and distribute 39% of the net slot machine income as follows:

1. Two percent for deposit in the General Fund for administrative expenses of the Gambling Control Board, including gambling addiction counseling services;
2. Ten percent to supplement harness racing purses;
3. Three percent for deposit in the Sire Stakes Fund;
4. Three percent for deposit in the Agricultural Fair Support Fund;
5. Five percent for the Town of Standish to establish a drinking water protection fund to protect the quality of the drinking water for communities served by the Portland Water District and to establish a recreational area on Sebago Lake in Standish;
6. One percent for scholarships for students at the University of Maine System;
7. One percent for scholarships for students at the Maine Community College System;
8. Ten percent for the Mountain Division Rail Line Authority, which is established in this bill and may issue bonds, to fund the acquisition, financing, construction, operation, improvement and repair of a railroad line from Portland through Westbrook, Gorham, Standish and Fryeburg to the New Hampshire border;

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- 9. Two percent for the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority to support the operation of a train on the railroad line from Portland to the New Hampshire border;
- 10. One percent for the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to be used for equine rescue and other animal protection programs; and
- 11. One percent for the municipality in which the slot machines are located.

LD 1879 was carried over pursuant to Joint Order, HP 1369.

LD 1882 An Act To Clarify Certain Provisions in the Harness Racing Statutes

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERRY J	ONTP	

This bill amends the harness racing statutes to clarify that simulcast racing activities may be conducted within licensed racino operator facilities.

LD 1889 An Act To Protect the Lives and Health of Members of the Maine National Guard

**PUBLIC 318
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CUMMINGS EDMONDS	OTP-AM	H-419

This bill creates the Commission to Protect the Lives and Health of Members of the Maine National Guard. The commission consists of 9 voting members and one or 2 advisory nonvoting members. The intent of the bill is to provide through the commission a higher and safer standard for preventive medical practices and health screenings administered to members of the Maine National Guard than currently exists.

The commission, working with the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management and the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, is required to review all preventive health care treatment practices and protocols and vaccinations and other medications administered to members of the Maine National Guard and propose recommendations to the Armed Forces of the United States regarding safer health care practices and medications. The commission shall also assist veterans' families who have members who have died while in the Maine National Guard to obtain accurate and timely information regarding the deaths. The commission shall track the care of wounded Maine National Guard members and help ensure good care.

The commission must hold at least 4 meetings a year, including one public hearing, to obtain information, including information provided by veterans and their families in regard to the issues that the commission is required to address.

Commission members include, among others, a physician, a psychologist, a pharmacist, a retired veteran who has served in a war zone, a family member of a deceased military person who died while serving in the Maine National Guard and a disabled veteran who suffered a disability while serving in a military capacity.

The commission must issue its first complete report by December 15, 2008 and an annual report thereafter.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-419)

This amendment clarifies that the Commission to Protect the Lives and Health of Members of the Maine National

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Guard will also track the care of wounded service members of all military services. It also makes a technical change by adding the commission to the list of boards and commissions found in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5 and by referencing the role of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention in Title 22, which governs health and welfare. This amendment includes a purpose section and clarifies a headnote.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 318 creates the Commission to Protect the Lives and Health of Members of the Maine National Guard. The commission consists of 9 voting members and one or 2 advisory nonvoting members. The intent of the bill is to provide through the commission a higher and safer standard for preventive medical practices and health screenings administered to members of the Maine National Guard than currently exists.

The commission, working with the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management and the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, is required to review all preventive health care treatment practices and protocols and vaccinations and other medications administered to members of the Maine National Guard and propose recommendations to the Armed Forces of the United States regarding safer health care practices and medications. The commission shall also assist veterans' families who have members who have died while in the Maine National Guard to obtain accurate and timely information regarding the deaths. The commission shall track the care of wounded Maine National Guard members and Armed Forces service members and help ensure good care.

The commission must hold at least 4 meetings a year, including one public hearing, to obtain information, including information provided by veterans and their families in regard to the issues that the commission is required to address.

Commission members include, among others, a physician, a psychologist, a pharmacist, a retired veteran who has served in a war zone, a family member of a deceased military person who died while serving in the Maine National Guard and a disabled veteran who suffered a disability while serving in a military capacity.

The commission must issue its first complete report by December 15, 2008 and an annual report thereafter.

Public Law 2007, chapter 318 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 18, 2007.

LD 1898 An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to Lobbying

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CANAVAN EDMONDS	ONTP	

This bill amends the definition of "lobbying" to include the solicitation of others to influence legislative action and defines "solicitation." The bill also requires a lobbyist to include in the lobbyist's monthly report to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices the specific dollar amount of expenditures for solicitation.

The proposal in this bill is to be considered with LD 1393 which was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

LD 1921 An Act Regarding the Central Voter Registration System

**PUBLIC 397
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

This bill is a Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs bill pursuant to joint order. It amends the laws governing the central voter registration system by consolidating 2 reports due annually in March to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over voter registration. It amends the fee system for the purchase of electronic records from the central voter registration system by reducing the cost and establishing new fees more in line with what other states charge for such records. Finally, in recognition of the delayed implementation of the central voter registration system, the bill extends the date of a sunset provision and allows for limited exceptions to the public records law by allowing some electronic data to be confidential.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 397 amends the laws governing the central voter registration system by consolidating 2 reports due annually in March to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over voter registration. It amends the fee system for the purchase of electronic records from the central voter registration system by reducing the cost and establishing new fees more in line with what other states charge for such records. Finally, in recognition of the delayed implementation of the central voter registration system, chapter 397 extends the date of a sunset provision and allows for limited exceptions to the public records law by allowing some electronic data to be confidential.

This bill was enacted as an emergency measure, effective June 21, 2007.

LD 1924 An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Committee To CARRIED OVER
Review the Taxation of Slot Machine Revenues, Created by Executive
Order 33 Fiscal Year 2006-07

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EDMONDS		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to implement the recommendations of the Committee to Review the Taxation of Slot Machine Revenues, created by Executive Order 33 Fiscal Year 2006-07.

LD 1924 was carried over pursuant to Joint Order, HP 1369.

LD 1928 An Act To Extend from 4 to 6 Terms the Limits on Legislative Terms PUBLIC 465

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>

This bill extends the limitation on legislative terms from 4 to 6. It would not apply to members of the Legislature who are currently serving a 4th consecutive term as a Senator or as a member of the House of Representatives. This bill requires that the proposed alteration in the law governing term limits be submitted to the voters in November 2007 for approval.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 465 submits to the voters in November 2007, a proposal to extend legislative terms from 4 to 6. This measure would not apply to members of the Legislature who are currently serving a 4th consecutive term as a Senator or as a member of the House of Representatives.

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs

SUBJECT INDEX

Alcoholic Beverages

Enacted

LD 620	An Act Relating to Liquor Samples	PUBLIC 113
LD 846	Resolve, Directing the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Liquor Licensing and Compliance To Study the Retail Placement and Marketing of Spirits, Beer and Wine with Regard to Minors	RESOLVE 68
LD 1124	An Act To Create an Ownership Interest in Agency Liquor Store Licenses	PUBLIC 117

Not Enacted

LD 143	An Act To Allow Direct-to-consumer Wine and Malt Liquor Sales	INDEF PP
LD 914	An Act To Extend the Hours for Sale and Delivery of Alcohol	ONTP
LD 1049	An Act To Require Wholesale Distributors of Alcoholic Beverages To Report the Quantity of Liquor Sold to Individual Licensees	ONTP
LD 1283	An Act To Prevent Retailers from Selling Liquor below Cost	ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT
LD 1315	An Act To Amend the Wine License Laws	ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT
LD 1497	An Act To Improve Local Control over Bars	ONTP
LD 1577	An Act To Address the Pervasive Effect of Substance Abuse in Maine	ONTP
LD 1643	An Act To Clarify Alcohol Enforcement	ONTP
LD 1688	An Act To Allow the Use of Credit Cards To Purchase Wine, Beer and Spirits from Distributors	ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT
LD 1757	An Act To Establish a Pricing Formula for Liquor Sales and To Adjust Agent Discounts	DIED IN CONCURRENCE

Beano and Games of Chance

Enacted

LD 76	An Act To Temporarily Reduce the Fee To Operate High-stakes Beano	PUBLIC 109
LD 127	An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to Beano	PUBLIC 110
LD 892	An Act To Authorize Nonprofit Organizations To Conduct Tournament Games	PUBLIC 205
LD 1422	An Act To Allow Nonprofit Organizations To Operate Certain Games of Chance without a License	PUBLIC 254
LD 1704	An Act To Make Changes in the Laws Regarding Raffles	PUBLIC 378

Not Enacted

LD 309	An Act To Change the Laws Concerning Games of Chance	ONTP
LD 915	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Bingo	ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT
LD 1273	An Act To Increase Beano Revenue	ONTP
LD 1397	An Act To Allow Nonprofit Organizations and Indian Tribes To Sponsor Texas Hold 'Em Tournaments	ONTP
LD 1723	An Act To Streamline the Beano Laws	ONTP

Campaign Finance and Maine Clean Election Act

Enacted

LD 1854	An Act Regarding Campaign Finance Reporting and the Maine Clean Election Act	PUBLIC 443
LD 1877	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 3: Maine Clean Election Act and Related Provisions, a Major Substantive Rule of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices	RESOLVE 72 EMERGENCY

Not Enacted

LD 106	An Act To Prohibit a Maine Clean Election Act Candidate from Participating in Political Action Committee Funding	ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT
LD 348	An Act To Limit Contributions to Political Action Committees	ONTP

LD 396	An Act To Provide Additional Funding for the Maine Clean Election Act	ONTP
LD 490	An Act To Clarify Reporting of Contributions and Expenditures by Persons Involving a Ballot Question	ONTP
LD 491	An Act To Set Limits on Political Action Committee Contributions	ONTP
LD 508	An Act Concerning Citizens' Initiatives and Public Disclosure of Influence	ONTP
LD 636	An Act To Create Optional Public Financing of Legislative Leadership Elections	ONTP
LD 700	An Act To Limit Expenditures by Political Action Committees	ONTP
LD 1233	An Act To Amend Requirements for Participation of Gubernatorial Candidates under the Maine Clean Election Act	ONTP
LD 1316	An Act To Define Campaign Communications Requiring Matching Clean Election Funding	ONTP
LD 1317	An Act To Require a Minimum Number of Votes in a Primary To Continue To Qualify as a Maine Clean Election Act Candidate	ONTP
LD 1394	An Act Regarding Campaign Finance Disclosure by Political Action Committees	CARRIED OVER
LD 1498	An Act To Prohibit Out-of-state Corporations from Contributing to State and County Elections	ONTP
LD 1499	An Act To Improve the Maine Clean Election Act	ONTP
LD 1507	An Act Regarding Political Activities of Corporations	INDEF PP
LD 1547	An Act To Prohibit a Maine Clean Election Act Candidate from Recruiting a Primary Opponent	ONTP
LD 1548	An Act Concerning Nonprofit Political Action Committees	ONTP
LD 1679	An Act To Change and Clarify the Maine Clean Election Laws	ONTP
LD 1680	An Act To Reform and Simplify the Clean Election Process	ONTP
LD 1682	An Act To Improve Maine's Clean Election Law	ONTP
LD 1724	An Act To Strengthen the Maine Clean Election Act	ONTP
LD 1729	An Act To Allow Contributors to Candidates Financed by the Maine Clean Election Fund To Submit Qualifying Contributions Online	ONTP

LD 1740 An Act To Amend the Maine Clean Election Act ONTP

LD 1779 An Act To Govern Publicly Funded Advertising during Campaigns DIED BETWEEN HOUSES

Campaign Practices

Not Enacted

LD 683 An Act To Limit the Activities of Political Candidates at Polling Places to Voting ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT

LD 1232 An Act To Limit the Duration of the Placement of Campaign Signs ONTP

LD 1251 An Act To Establish the Crime of Political Libel BY REQUEST ONTP

LD 1561 An Act To Eliminate the Placement of Campaign Signs on Public Property ONTP

LD 1562 An Act To Restrict the Placement of Political Signs by Requiring Permission ONTP

Claims Against the State

Not Enacted

LD 10 An Act To Reimburse Philip Wolley for Litigation Expenses Incurred in Connection with His Termination and Reinstatement as a State Employee ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT

LD 730 Resolve, Authorizing Matthew Haskell To Sue the State ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT

Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management

Enacted

LD 62 An Act To Recognize Gold Star Parents and Family Members PUBLIC 461

LD 1088 An Act To Amend Various Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management Laws PUBLIC 167

LD 1607 An Act To Establish a Fund to Provide American Flags at Veterans' Graves PUBLIC 368 EMERGENCY

Elections

Enacted

LD 27	An Act To Clarify Election Laws Concerning Election Clerks' Qualifications	PUBLIC 422 EMERGENCY
LD 663	An Act To Update Absentee Ballot Procedures	PUBLIC 122 EMERGENCY
LD 1761	An Act To Amend the Election Laws	PUBLIC 455
LD 1871	Resolve, Authorizing Municipalities To Consolidate Voting Districts for a Special Election	RESOLVE 12 EMERGENCY
<u>Not Enacted</u>		
LD 287	An Act To Limit Campaigning at Polling Places	ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT
LD 310	An Act To Ensure the Integrity of Maine's Electoral Process by Requiring Physical Ballots	ONTP
LD 434	An Act To Allow a Voter To Preserve the Confidentiality of That Voter's Presence at the Polls	ONTP
LD 563	An Act To Move the Primary Election from June to September	ONTP
LD 585	An Act To Establish Instant Run-off Voting for Gubernatorial Races	ONTP
LD 732	An Act To Improve the Candidate Nomination and Replacement Process	ONTP
LD 1150	An Act To Establish Random Audits of Voting Machines	CARRIED OVER
LD 1362	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Municipal Elections	ONTP
LD 1744	An Act To Join the Interstate Compact on the National Popular Vote	CARRIED OVER
LD 1799	An Act To Establish Open Ballot Voting in Maine	CARRIED OVER

Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

Enacted

LD 1008	Resolve, Directing the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices To Provide Historical Data Regarding the Receipt and Resolution of Complaints Pertaining to Legislative Ethics Violations	RESOLVE 81
LD 1136	An Act To Amend the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices' Appointment Process	PUBLIC 252
LD 1341	An Act To Clarify Restrictions on Accepting Campaign Contributions Laws	PUBLIC 279

Harness Racing and Off-track Betting

Not Enacted

LD 35	An Act To Require Approval by the Gambling Control Board for the Transfer of Ownership of an Off-track Betting Facility	ONTP
LD 891	An Act To Allow and Regulate Additional Pari-mutuel Wagering at Commercial Tracks	ONTP
LD 1882	An Act To Clarify Certain Provisions in the Harness Racing Statutes	ONTP

Initiatives and Referenda

Enacted

LD 176	An Act To Provide Notice to the General Public about Proposed Initiative Questions	PUBLIC 234 EMERGENCY
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Not Enacted

LD 699	Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Improve Certain Aspects of the Citizen Initiative Process	ONTP
LD 1050	An Act To Prohibit Payment for the Gathering of Petition Signatures	ONTP
LD 1059	An Act To Ban Payment-per-signature for Initiative and Referenda Petition Circulators	ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT
LD 1328	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Limit the Frequency with which an Issue May Appear on the Ballot as a Result of a Direct Initiative	ONTP
LD 1522	An Act To Modify the Citizen Initiative Process	ONTP

Landlord/Tenant Laws

Enacted

LD 330	An Act To Protect the Integrity of Security Deposits	PUBLIC 332
LD 475	An Act To Prevent Additional Housing Charges for Persons Requiring In-home Care	PUBLIC 387
LD 1651	An Act To Permit the Use of Surety Bonds in Lieu of Security Deposits	PUBLIC 370

Not Enacted

LD 383	An Act To Amend the Landlord-tenant Laws	ONTP
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LD 1306 An Act To Protect against Discrimination in Housing ONTP

Lobbying and Lobbyists

Enacted

LD 1058 An Act To Require the Reporting of Executive Branch Lobbying PUBLIC 373

Not Enacted

LD 557 An Act To Increase the Penalty for Late Filings by Lobbyists BY REQUEST ONTP

LD 1051 An Act To Provide Information to the Public Regarding Lobbying and Lobbyists ONTP

LD 1393 An Act Regarding Lobbyist Disclosure CARRIED OVER

LD 1898 An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to Lobbying ONTP

Lottery

Not Enacted

LD 1121 An Act To Provide That Lottery Proceeds Be Devoted to Public or Charitable Uses ONTP

LD 1260 An Act To Create an Animal Welfare Lottery Game ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT

Maine National Guard

Enacted

LD 1857 An Act To Allow Members of the Maine National Guard To Run for Office in a Partisan Public Election PUBLIC 130

LD 1889 An Act To Protect the Lives and Health of Members of the Maine National Guard PUBLIC 318 EMERGENCY

Slot machines

Not Enacted

LD 701 An Act To Authorize the Operation of Slot Machines on Indian Island in Old Town CARRIED OVER

LD 805 An Act To Authorize a Tribal Commercial Track and Slot Machines in Washington County VETO SUSTAINED

LD 890	An Act To Allow the Awarding of Prize Money from Gambling Machines Run by Nonprofit Organizations	ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT
LD 994	An Act To Make Minor Changes to the Gambling Control Board Laws	ONTP
LD 1828	An Act To Allow a Casino in Oxford County	ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT
LD 1879	An Act To Allow Additional Slot Machines at a Harness Horse Racing Track To Support Harness Horse Racing, Passenger and Freight Train Service on the Mountain Division Rail Line and Passenger Train Service Overseen by the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority	CARRIED OVER
LD 1924	An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Committee To Review the Taxation of Slot Machine Revenues, Created by Executive Order 33 Fiscal Year 2006-07	CARRIED OVER

Term Limits

Enacted

LD 1928	An Act To Extend from 4 to 6 Terms the Limits on Legislative Terms	PUBLIC 465
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Not Enacted

LD 42	An Act To Repeal Term Limits for Legislators	INDEF PP
LD 854	An Act To Extend Term Limits for the House of Representatives	ONTP

Veterans and Veterans' Services

Enacted

LD 999	An Act To Improve Transportation for Veterans	P & S 30
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Not Enacted

LD 458	An Act To Prevent Persons Convicted of Child Molestation from Being Buried in a Maine Veterans' Cemetery	ONTP
LD 1023	An Act To Designate Special Funds To Help Support Maine Military Families	ONTP

Voting

Enacted

LD 1921	An Act Regarding the Central Voter Registration System	PUBLIC 397 EMERGENCY
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Not Enacted

LD 203	An Act Concerning Student Voter Registration	ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT
LD 300	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Restrict the Voting Privileges of Certain Incarcerated Felons	ONTP
LD 731	An Act To Preserve the Integrity of Elections by Removing the Requirement for a Challenge Affidavit	ONTP
LD 1549	An Act Concerning Voter Registration	ONTP
LD 1783	An Act To Require Photographic Identification in Order To Register To Vote	ONTP

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