

STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

June 2024

STAFF:

RACHEL OLSON, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
LYNNE WESTPHAL, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla>

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Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

SUBJECT INDEX

Alcoholic Beverages, Administration

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	LD 2069	An Act to Amend the Ownership Disclosure Requirements for Applicants for Liquor Licenses and Certificates of Approval	PUBLIC 633
	LD 2088	An Act to Change the Number of Agency Liquor Stores Allowed in Certain Municipalities and to Convene a Stakeholder Group Regarding Licensing and Operations	PUBLIC 550
Not Enacted	LD 248	An Act to Amend the State's Liquor Laws	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310
	LD 1695	An Act to Provide for the Direct Shipment of Spirits to Consumers	Died Between Houses

Alcoholic Beverages, Regulation

Enacted	LD 2148	An Act to Expand Direct Shipment Reporting and to Allow for the Use of Fulfillment Providers for the Direct Shipment of Wine	PUBLIC 604
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Campaign Finance, Generally

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	LD 1590	An Act to Require Disclosure of Campaign Funding Sources	Majority (ONTP) Report
	LD 2232	An Act to Limit Contributions to Political Action Committees That Make Independent Expenditures	ONTP

Campaign Finance, Maine Clean Election Act

Not Enacted	LD 192	An Act Concerning the Future of Clean Election Funding	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310
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LD 1966 An Act to Allow Candidates for District Attorney to Participate in the
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Enacted LD 355 An Act to Eliminate the Cannabis Advisory Commission PUBLIC 650

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Medical Use of Cannabis Act PUBLIC 679

LD 1517 An Act to Establish the Social Equity Program PUBLIC 683

LD 2147 An Act to Change the Requirement for Edible Cannabis Products to Be
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LD 2178 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 20: Rules for the
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Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services,
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LD 2187 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 10: Rules for the
Administration of the Adult Use Cannabis Program, a Major
Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial
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**Not
Enacted** LD 48 An Act to Clarify Provisions of the Cannabis Legalization Act
Regarding Labels, Packaging and Testing ONTP

LD 1529 An Act to Reform the State's Adult Use Cannabis Seed-to-sale
Tracking System to Allow for Canopy Tagging CARRIED OVER

LD 1691 An Act to Provide Parity in State Energy Rate Relief Payments and
Tax Exemptions for Maine Cannabis Businesses CARRIED OVER

LD 1757 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Reporting and Tracking of
Adult Use Cannabis ONTP

LD 1952	An Act to Allow On-site Cannabis Consumption	ONTP
LD 2155	An Act to Clarify Licensing Criteria and Criminal History Record Check and Notification Requirements for Adult Use Cannabis Establishments	Died Between Houses

Cannabis, Medical Use

Enacted	LD 40	An Act to Protect Liberty and Advance Justice in the Administration and Enforcement of the Cannabis Legalization Act and the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act	PUBLIC 679
	LD 1517	An Act to Establish the Social Equity Program	PUBLIC 683
	LD 2185	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 2: Medical Use of Cannabis Program Rule, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy	RESOLVE 168
Not Enacted	LD 1530	An Act to Support Patients by Permitting On-site Consumption of Medical Cannabis and Medical Cannabis Products	ONTP
	LD 1691	An Act to Provide Parity in State Energy Rate Relief Payments and Tax Exemptions for Maine Cannabis Businesses	CARRIED OVER
	LD 1819	An Act to Create the Maine Medical Cannabis Advisory Commission and the Medical Cannabis Alternative Health Board	ONTP

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Enacted	LD 833	An Act to Establish Separate Inauguration and Transition Committees for a Governor-elect and to Limit Donations to Each	PUBLIC 573
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Elections, Conduct of Elections

Enacted	LD 1578	An Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote	PUBLIC 628
Not Enacted	LD 332	An Act to Provide Funds Necessary for the Production and Delivery of Election Materials by the Secretary of State and to Reconvene the Working Group to Study Polling Places at Schools	CARRIED OVER
	LD 1959	An Act Regarding Open Primary Elections and Ranked-choice Voting	Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 1991 An Act Regarding Gubernatorial Primary Elections ONTP

Gambling, Beano and Games of Chance

Enacted	LD 2108	An Act to Amend Maine's Charitable Organization Gaming Laws	PUBLIC 578
Not Enacted	LD 1992	An Act to Legalize Historical Horse Racing and Electronic Beano to Allow Maine Gaming Licensees and Federally Recognized Indian Tribes to Compete with Other Gaming States	Died Between Houses
	LD 2213	An Act to Support Nonprofit Organizations and Federally Recognized Indian Tribes by Authorizing the Operation of Electronic Lucky Seven or Similar Sealed Ticket Devices and Updating the High-stakes Beano Law	CARRIED OVER

Gambling, Casinos and Slot Machines

Enacted	LD 504	An Act Regarding Licensing Fees for Small Slot Machine Distributors	PUBLIC 655
	LD 2070	An Act to Implement a Facility-based Monitoring System for Slot Machines	PUBLIC 549
Not Enacted	LD 1777	An Act to Create Economic Opportunity for Wabanaki Nations Through Internet Gaming	Died Between Houses
	LD 1944	An Act Regarding Tribal Gaming	ONTP

Gambling, Generally

Enacted	LD 2080	An Act to Create a Universal Exclusion List for All Forms of Gambling in the State	PUBLIC 635
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Gambling, Harness Racing and Off-track Betting

Enacted	LD 2124	An Act to Clarify the Eligibility of an Off-track Betting Facility to Receive Funding	PUBLIC 586
Not Enacted	LD 1992	An Act to Legalize Historical Horse Racing and Electronic Beano to Allow Maine Gaming Licensees and Federally Recognized Indian Tribes to Compete with Other Gaming States	Died Between Houses

LD 2260 An Act to Update the Laws Regarding the Sale of Pari-mutuel Pools for Simulcast Races ONTP

Gambling, Sports and Fantasy Contests

Enacted LD 2117 An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Sports Wagering Licensing PUBLIC 577

Miscellaneous

Enacted LD 833 An Act to Establish Separate Inauguration and Transition Committees for a Governor-elect and to Limit Donations to Each PUBLIC 573

Not Enacted LD 1914 Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Pathways for Creating a Psilocybin Services Program in Maine CARRIED OVER

Veterans

Enacted LD 2259 An Act to Prohibit Receiving Compensation for Assisting a Person to Obtain Veterans' Benefits Except as Permitted Under Federal Law PUBLIC 617

Not Enacted LD 265 An Act to Provide Support Services for Military Members Transitioning to Civilian Life in Maine CARRIED OVER

LD 1375 An Act to Provide Funding for a Chapel at the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Augusta CARRIED OVER

LD 2211 An Act Regarding Quality of Care and the Board of Trustees at the Maine Veterans' Homes CARRIED OVER

LD 2217 Resolve, to Require the Department of Health and Human Services to Amend Its MaineCare Reimbursement Rules to Provide Reimbursement to Veterans' Facilities on a Per Resident Basis CARRIED OVER

LD 2263 An Act to Fund Military Sexual Trauma Liaison Positions at Community-based Organizations CARRIED OVER

LD 2274 An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission and to Reestablish the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission HELD BY GOVERNOR

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Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law Ch		Analyst Note?
						Law	Ch	
VLA	40	An Act to Protect Liberty and Advance Justice in the Administration and Enforcement of the Cannabis Legalization Act and the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/15/2024	Enacted	PL	679	
VLA	48	An Act to Clarify Provisions of the Cannabis Legalization Act Regarding Labels, Packaging and Testing	ONTP	3/19/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
VLA	192	An Act Concerning the Future of Clean Election Funding	LTW	2/26/2024	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
VLA	246	An Act to Amend the Campaign Finance Laws	LTW	2/23/2024	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
VLA	248	An Act to Amend the State's Liquor Laws	LTW	2/28/2024	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
VLA	265	An Act to Provide Support Services for Military Members Transitioning to Civilian Life in Maine	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/6/2023				
VLA	332	An Act to Provide Funds Necessary for the Production and Delivery of Election Materials by the Secretary of State and to Reconvene the Working Group to Study Polling Places at Schools	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/1/2024				
VLA	355	An Act to Eliminate the Cannabis Advisory Commission	OTP-AM	4/24/2023	Enacted	PL	650	

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Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
VLA	504	An Act Regarding Licensing Fees for Small Slot Machine Distributors	OTP-AM	5/12/2023	Enacted	PL	655	
VLA	833	An Act to Establish Separate Inauguration and Transition Committees for a Governor-elect and to Limit Donations to Each	OTP-AM	2/29/2024	Enacted	PL	573	
VLA	1375	An Act to Provide Funding for a Chapel at the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Augusta	OTP-AM/ONTP/OTP-AM	6/2/2023				
VLA	1517	An Act to Establish the Social Equity Program	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/16/2024	Enacted	PL	683	
VLA	1529	An Act to Reform the State's Adult Use Cannabis Seed-to-sale Tracking System to Allow for Canopy Tagging	OTP-AM	6/15/2023				
VLA	1530	An Act to Support Patients by Permitting On-site Consumption of Medical Cannabis and Medical Cannabis Products	ONTP	2/29/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
VLA	1578	An Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote	ONTP/OTP-AM/OTP-AM	2/29/2024	Enacted	PL	628	
VLA	1590	An Act to Require Disclosure of Campaign Funding Sources	ONTP/OTP-AM	2/16/2024	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			
VLA	1691	An Act to Provide Parity in State Energy Rate Relief Payments and Tax Exemptions for Maine Cannabis Businesses	OTP-AM	6/22/2023				
VLA	1695	An Act to Provide for the Direct Shipment of Spirits to Consumers	ONTP/OTP-AM	4/5/2024	Died Between Houses			
VLA	1757	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Reporting and Tracking of Adult Use Cannabis	ONTP	2/29/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			

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Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
VLA	1777	An Act to Create Economic Opportunity for Wabanaki Nations Through Internet Gaming	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/8/2024	Died Between Houses			
VLA	1819	An Act to Create the Maine Medical Cannabis Advisory Commission and the Medical Cannabis Alternative Health Board	ONTP	3/6/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
VLA	1914	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Pathways for Creating a Psilocybin Services Program in Maine	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/3/2024				
VLA	1944	An Act Regarding Tribal Gaming	ONTP	2/2/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
VLA	1952	An Act to Allow On-site Cannabis Consumption	ONTP	2/29/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
VLA	1959	An Act Regarding Open Primary Elections and Ranked-choice Voting	ONTP/OTP-AM	3/29/2024	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			
VLA	1966	An Act to Allow Candidates for District Attorney to Participate in the Maine Clean Election Act	OTP-AM/ONTP	2/16/2024	Held by Governor			
VLA	1991	An Act Regarding Gubernatorial Primary Elections	ONTP	1/22/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			

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Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
VLA	1992	An Act to Legalize Historical Horse Racing and Electronic Beano to Allow Maine Gaming Licensees and Federally Recognized Indian Tribes to Compete with Other Gaming States	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/12/2024	Died Between Houses			
VLA	2014	An Act Regarding Spirits Price Review and Recommendations	OTP-AM	4/3/2024	Enacted	PL	632	
VLA	2069	An Act to Amend the Ownership Disclosure Requirements for Applicants for Liquor Licenses and Certificates of Approval	OTP-AM	4/5/2024	Enacted	PL	633	
VLA	2070	An Act to Implement a Facility-based Monitoring System for Slot Machines	OTP-AM	2/29/2024	Emergency Enacted	PL	549	
VLA	2080	An Act to Create a Universal Exclusion List for All Forms of Gambling in the State	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/8/2024	Enacted	PL	635	
VLA	2088	An Act to Change the Number of Agency Liquor Stores Allowed in Certain Municipalities and to Convene a Stakeholder Group Regarding Licensing and Operations	OTP-AM	2/29/2024	Emergency Enacted	PL	550	
VLA	2108	An Act to Amend Maine's Charitable Organization Gaming Laws	OTP-AM	3/19/2024	Enacted	PL	578	
VLA	2117	An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Sports Wagering Licensing	OTP-AM	3/19/2024	Enacted	PL	577	
VLA	2124	An Act to Clarify the Eligibility of an Off-track Betting Facility to Receive Funding	OTP-AM	3/8/2024	Enacted	PL	586	
VLA	2147	An Act to Change the Requirement for Edible Cannabis Products to Be Stamped or Embossed on Each Serving with a Universal Symbol	OTP-AM/OTP-AM	3/28/2024	Emergency Enacted	PL	641	
VLA	2148	An Act to Expand Direct Shipment Reporting and to Allow for the Use of Fulfillment Providers for the Direct Shipment of Wine	OTP-AM	3/29/2024	Enacted	PL	604	
VLA	2155	An Act to Clarify Licensing Criteria and Criminal History Record Check and Notification Requirements for Adult Use Cannabis Establishments	OTP-AM	3/28/2024	Died Between Houses			
VLA	2178	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 20: Rules for the Licensure of Adult Use Cannabis Establishments, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy	OTP-AM	4/3/2024	Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	179	

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Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
VLA	2185	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 2: Medical Use of Cannabis Program Rule, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy	OTP-AM	3/27/2024	Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	168	
VLA	2186	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 30: Compliance Rules for Adult Use Cannabis Establishments, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy	OTP-AM	4/3/2024	Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	180	
VLA	2187	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 10: Rules for the Administration of the Adult Use Cannabis Program, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy	OTP-AM	4/10/2024	Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	183	
VLA	2211	An Act Regarding Quality of Care and the Board of Trustees at the Maine Veterans' Homes	OTP-AM/ONTP	3/28/2024				
VLA	2213	An Act to Support Nonprofit Organizations and Federally Recognized Indian Tribes by Authorizing the Operation of Electronic Lucky Seven or Similar Sealed Ticket Devices and Updating the High-stakes Beano Law	OTP-AM/OTP-AM/ONTP	4/15/2024				
VLA	2217	Resolve, to Require the Department of Health and Human Services to Amend Its MaineCare Reimbursement Rules to Provide Reimbursement to Veterans' Facilities on a Per Resident Basis	OTP-AM	3/11/2024				
VLA	2232	An Act to Limit Contributions to Political Action Committees That Make Independent Expenditures	ONTP	3/19/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
VLA	2259	An Act to Prohibit Receiving Compensation for Assisting a Person to Obtain Veterans' Benefits Except as Permitted Under Federal Law	OTP-AM	3/28/2024	Enacted	PL	617	

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Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
VLA	2260	An Act to Update the Laws Regarding the Sale of Pari-mutuel Pools for Simulcast Races	ONTP	3/27/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
VLA	2263	An Act to Fund Military Sexual Trauma Liaison Positions at Community-based Organizations	OTP/ONTP	3/19/2024				
VLA	2274	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission and to Reestablish the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission	OTP-AM	4/5/2024	Held by Governor			

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LD 40 An Act to Protect Liberty and Advance Justice in the Administration and Enforcement of the Cannabis Legalization Act and the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 679 makes significant changes to the Cannabis Legalization Act and the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act and authorizes the adoption of three major substantive rules provisionally adopted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy, referred to in this summary as “the office.” The law is divided into five parts.

Part A clarifies that both the medical use of cannabis program and the adult use of cannabis program are subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over veterans and legal affairs under the State Government Evaluation Act. Part A also makes the following changes to the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act.

1. It reorganizes the definitions in alphabetical order.
2. It amends certain definitions in response to the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs Subcommittee established to consider non-substantive changes to the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act.
3. It amends certain definitions to better conform the definitions with the Legislature's intent for the medical use of cannabis program.
4. It establishes a process for appointing or approving a person to operate, manage, control or wind down a cannabis business in cases of death, disability, bankruptcy, judicial dissolution or other exceptional circumstances.
5. It clarifies that a caregiver may assist up to two other caregivers with authorized activities for up to 90 days in one calendar year.
6. It enumerates the types of violations the office may enforce and the enforcement actions authorized.
7. It repeals and replaces the provision on suspension of a registration to specify the circumstances that warrant a suspension and to limit the suspension to one year.
8. It adds a requirement that the office provide written notice to a registrant within five business days of identifying a violation of the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act and requires the registrant to provide the office with a plan of correction, if applicable, within five days of receiving the notice.
9. It adds a requirement that if the office decides to impose a monetary penalty for a violation, the office must provide timely notice to the registrant.

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10. It clarifies that the Maine Administrative Procedure Act applies to actions of the office taken pursuant to the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act.

Part B makes the following changes to the Cannabis Legalization Act and Title 28-B, chapter 3, which governs personal adult use of cannabis and cannabis products and home cultivation of cannabis for personal adult use.

1. It reorganizes the definitions in alphabetical order.
2. It amends certain definitions to better conform the definitions with the Legislature's intent for the adult use of cannabis program.
3. It adds a definition of “principal” to identify the natural persons subject to the provisions of the chapter when the principal is an entity and not a natural person.
4. It establishes the Office of Cannabis Policy within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and replaces the word “department” with the word “office” throughout the Cannabis Legalization Act, when appropriate.
5. It moves the provisions related to rule-making authority into a new section.
6. It allows a licensee to submit the required tracking data through the use of software that connects to the tracking system maintained by the office through an application program interface.
7. It includes in statute the requirements for an individual identification card.
8. It removes the requirement that an employee or other support staff submit to a criminal history record check.
9. It adds a requirement that the office include in its annual report a detailed account of the income and expenditures of the Adult Use Cannabis Regulatory Coordination Fund and the Adult Use Cannabis Public Health and Safety and Municipal Opt-in Fund in Title 28-B, chapter 1, subchapter 11.
10. It removes the requirement that a licensee be a resident of the State, a provision that has not been enforced by the office pursuant to an opinion issued by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court in 2021.
11. It establishes a process for appointing or approving a person to operate, manage, control or wind down a cannabis business in cases of death, disability, bankruptcy, judicial dissolution or other exceptional circumstances.
12. It clarifies that the colocation of certain adult use cannabis operations and medical use cannabis operations may occur in a shared facility as long as there is an owner in common licensed

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under the adult use of cannabis program and registered under the medical use of cannabis program.

13. It establishes a process for a cultivation facility or nursery cultivation facility to acquire seeds or seedlings by purchase or gift.
14. It clarifies that a manufacturing facility licensee may, under certain conditions, also manufacture certain other products if authorized pursuant to Title 7, section 2231, except that the licensee may not manufacture hemp that does not also contain cannabis.
15. It clarifies that a licensee may retest its adult use cannabis and adult use cannabis products for potency but must report the potency values for both the initial and retest to the office.
16. It establishes a process for a licensee to provide samples of adult use cannabis and adult use cannabis products to a consumer.
17. It allows a cannabis store to establish special retail sales prices.
18. It allows for a minor to enter a cannabis store when accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or custodian and allows an individual identification card holder who is a parent, legal guardian or custodian of a minor to bring the minor on the licensed premises in emergency circumstances.
19. It establishes a process for a licensee to allow visitors who are not minors in a limited access area of the cannabis establishment.
20. It limits the amount of samples the office may collect and test for both product quality control and for audit testing purposes.
21. It clarifies that returned adult use cannabis and adult use cannabis products, except cannabis and cannabis products returned by a consumer to a cannabis store, do not need to be retested if the tamper-evident packaging indicates that the cannabis or cannabis product packaging is intact.
22. It requires the office to submit a written decision on a request for approval of any labeling, packaging, advertising and marketing voluntarily submitted by a licensee within 30 days of the request.
23. It amends the requirement that all edible cannabis products be stamped or embossed with a universal symbol by allowing an edible cannabis product serving to be individually wrapped or blister packaged with the universal symbol clearly included on the wrapping or packaging.
24. It identifies the following edible cannabis products as impracticable to stamp, emboss, individually wrap or blister package: potato or corn chips, popcorn, pretzels, loose granola and gummies.

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25. It enumerates the types of violations the office may enforce and the enforcement actions authorized.
26. It decreases the monetary penalties imposed by the office in the following ways.
 - A. The penalty for a major violation affecting public safety is decreased from not more than \$100,000 to not more than \$20,000 per violation.
 - B. The penalty for a major violation is decreased from not more than \$50,000 per violation to not more than \$10,000 per violation.
 - C. The penalty for a minor violation is decreased from not more than \$10,000 per violation to not more than \$2,500 per violation.
27. It adds a requirement that the office provide written notice to a licensee within five business days of identifying a violation of the Cannabis Legalization Act and requires the licensee to provide the office with a plan of correction, if applicable, within five days of receiving the notice.
28. It repeals and replaces the provision on suspension of a license to specify the circumstances that warrant a suspension and to limit the suspension to one year.
29. It provides for the revocation of a license by the office under certain circumstances.
30. It provides for timely notice to the licensee when the office identifies a violation.
31. It clarifies that the Maine Administrative Procedure Act applies to actions of the office taken pursuant to the Cannabis Legalization Act.
32. It clarifies conduct required and prohibited during an administrative hold imposed by the office.
33. It clarifies that the office does not enforce the provisions of Title 28-B, chapter 3, which governs personal adult use of cannabis and cannabis products and home cultivation of cannabis for personal adult use.

Part C makes necessary corrections throughout the Maine Revised Statutes, other than in Title 28-B or Title 22, chapter 558-C, when a provision in statute cross-references a portion of Title 28-B or Title 22, chapter 558-C that was amended or repealed in this law.

Part D creates the cannabis hospitality task force to review how other states regulate cannabis hospitality establishments and to draft recommendations for a bill to regulate these establishments in the State. It requires the office to develop a self-populating online license renewal application process. It staggers implementation of the change from an annual renewal of registry identification cards required under Title 28-B, chapter 1 to a two-year renewal requirement.

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Part E adopts three major substantive rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy, with certain changes.

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

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

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

LD 355 An Act to Eliminate the Cannabis Advisory Commission

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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

LD 1517 An Act to Establish the Social Equity Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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

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

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

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

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LD 1578 An Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 628 adopts the Interstate Compact: Agreement Among the States to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote, referred to as the National Popular Vote for President Act. Under the compact, all of a participating state's electoral votes are awarded to the presidential slate that receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Because the compact takes effect only when the number of electoral votes held by the participating states equals a majority of the overall total number of electoral votes, currently at least 270 of the 538 electoral votes, the presidential slate that receives the most popular votes is declared the winning slate.

Public Law 2023, chapter 628 also adjusts the use of ranked-choice voting to determine the electors in this State when the National Popular Vote for President Act governs the appointment of electors. If no presidential slate receives a majority of the initial votes cast for president in the State, the count is determined by ranked-choice voting under the supervision of the Secretary of State. Only the vote counts of the two slates in the final round of ranked-choice voting are forwarded by the Governor to the Archivist of the United States for determination of the national popular vote count. To clarify the process under ranked-choice voting regarding candidates, the law replaces the word "defeated" with the term "removed from consideration."

The National Popular Vote for President Act is only in effect when the number of electoral votes held by the participating states equals a majority of the overall total number of electoral votes, so that if that number falls below a majority, due to a state withdrawing as a member of the compact, the National Popular Vote for President Act will not govern subsequent presidential elections. The Secretary of State is required to provide notice of both when the Act is in effect and when it has been discontinued.

LD 2014 An Act Regarding Spirits Price Review and Recommendations

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 632 provides that the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations must, beginning October 1, 2024 and every two years thereafter, conduct a review of the retail prices of spirits sold in the State established by the State Liquor and Lottery Commission. The review must include comments provided to the bureau from a public hearing held by the bureau on the retail prices of spirits sold in the State. The bureau must also submit a report of the review to the commission and to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over alcoholic beverages matters, which may also include recommendations regarding the establishment of the retail prices of spirits sold in the State.

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Public Law 2023, chapter 632 directs the bureau to adopt routine technical rules regarding the process for developing recommendations to be submitted to the commission regarding the establishment of the retail prices of spirits sold in the State. The rules must include, at a minimum, rules regarding the data and criteria used in developing the recommendations and a process for the bureau to receive public input regarding the recommendation. In adopting the rules, the bureau must hold a public hearing.

It also directs the State Liquor and Lottery Commission, on or before September 1, 2024, to initiate rulemaking required in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-A, section 81, subsection 5 establishing procedures for the conduct of adjudicatory hearings.

LD 2069 An Act to Amend the Ownership Disclosure Requirements for Applicants for Liquor Licenses and Certificates of Approval

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 633 makes the following changes to the laws related to the ownership disclosure requirements for applicants for liquor licenses and certificates of approval.

1. It only requires disclosure of ownership interest of 10% or greater in the person for which a license or certificate of approval is sought.
2. It requires a business entity that has an ownership interest of 10% or greater in a person for which a license or certificate of approval is sought to disclose any person that holds an ownership interest in that business entity that holds an ownership interest equal to or greater than 10% in the person for which a license or certificate of approval is sought.
3. It allows business entities with an ownership interest of 10% or greater in the person for which a license or certificate of approval is sought to attest via affidavit that no person that holds an ownership interest in that business entity holds an ownership interest equal to or greater than 10% in the person for which a license or certificate of approval is sought.
4. It also requires the applicant for a license or certificate of approval to disclose any person that holds an indirect financial interest in the person for which a license or certificate of approval is sought and provides a definition of “indirect financial interest.”

Public Law 2023, chapter 633 also permits the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to adopt routine technical rules if needed to administer the application procedure for a license or certificate of approval.

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LD 2070 An Act to Implement a Facility-based Monitoring System for Slot Machines

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 549 amends the laws relating to the auditing and security of slot machines by replacing the requirement that the Department of Public Safety maintain a central site monitoring system with a requirement that all slot machines communicate electronically with an on-site facility-based monitoring system that is accessible by the department. The Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board, or the director or staff of the board, in collaboration with a casino operator or slot machine operator, has the ability to disable slot machines when appropriate. An on-site computer system that is accessible by the department through read-only access and was in operation as of January 1, 2024 at a casino or slot machine facility licensed by the State is considered a facility-based monitoring system.

Public Law 2023, chapter 549 also amends the provision of law regarding examination of slot machines and associated equipment to provide that the Gambling Control Board, in cooperation with the Department of Public Safety, must approve qualified independent laboratories for certification of slot machines and associated equipment from slot machine distributors and gambling services vendors seeking registration. A slot machine distributor or gambling services vendor seeking certification of the slot machine or associated equipment must pay the board-approved independent laboratory the cost of the certification before it is completed. The Gambling Control Board may adopt routine technical rules to establish the approval process to verify certifications, approve shipments and inspect slot machines.

The provisions of Public Law 2023, chapter 549 have an effective date of June 30, 2024.

Public Law 2023, chapter 549 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 19, 2024.

LD 2080 An Act to Create a Universal Exclusion List for All Forms of Gambling in the State

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 635 allows individuals to voluntarily exclude themselves from a slot machine facility, a casino, advance deposit wagering, a fantasy contest or sports wagering collectively or separately and also allows the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit and licensees to work with a universal list and not a list for each separate area of regulation. It also includes provisions for the inclusion on the universal list of individuals who are involuntarily excluded from a slot machine facility, a casino, advance deposit wagering, a fantasy contest or sports wagering. It adds a requirement directing the Gambling Control Board to adopt rules relating to the conduct of advance deposit wagering that establish provisions allowing persons to restrict themselves from advance deposit wagering upon request by placing themselves on the universal list and that define standards for involuntary placement on the universal list and for removal from the universal list. It also directs the board to adopt these rules in a manner consistent, to the extent possible, for all forms of gambling included on the universal list.

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

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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

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

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

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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

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LD 2117 An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Sports Wagering Licensing

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 577 amends the laws governing the regulation of sports wagering licensing. Beginning on or after September 1, 2024, the fee for an initial or renewed facility sports wagering license is reduced from \$4,000 to \$1,000 and the term of the license is reduced from four years to one year. It makes similar changes regarding the mobile sports wagering license, except that it lowers the fee from \$200,000 to \$50,000. It also makes similar changes regarding the supplier license and the management services license, except that it lowers the fee from \$40,000 to \$10,000. It also changes the provisions regarding temporary licenses by aligning the license fees and license terms with the initial or renewed license fees and license terms.

LD 2124 An Act to Clarify the Eligibility of an Off-track Betting Facility to Receive Funding

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 586 amends the laws governing the Fund to Stabilize Off-track Betting Facilities to provide that the fund provides revenues to off-track betting facilities licensed and in operation in the State on the date of the distribution from the fund.

LD 2147 An Act to Change the Requirement for Edible Cannabis Products to Be Stamped or Embossed on Each Serving with a Universal Symbol

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 641 changes the requirement that each individual serving of an edible cannabis product be stamped or embossed with a universal symbol. In place of stamping or embossing each individual product, an edible cannabis product may be individually wrapped or blister packaged with the symbol embossed or stamped on the wrapping or packaging.

Public Law 2023, chapter 641 allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy to identify, by rule, edible cannabis products that are impracticable to emboss or stamp or to individually wrap or blister package. Such products may be packaged together with the universal symbol on the package label. The law identifies potato or corn chips, popcorn, pretzels, loose granola and gummies as impracticable to emboss or stamp or to individually wrap or blister wrap.

Public Law 2023, chapter 641 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 21, 2024.

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LD 2148 An Act to Expand Direct Shipment Reporting and to Allow for the Use of Fulfillment Providers for the Direct Shipment of Wine

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 604 makes the following changes to the laws governing the direct shipment of wine.

1. It adds a definition of “fulfillment provider.”
2. It provides that fulfillment providers must be registered with the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations in order to ship wine on behalf of a direct shipper to recipients in this State.
3. It provides that direct shippers, fulfillment providers and common carriers must report quarterly to the bureau.
4. It establishes record retention requirements for direct shippers, fulfillment providers and common carriers.
5. It requires that a shipping label specifically indicate the residence address of the recipient.
6. It clarifies that wine shipped under the laws governing the direct shipment of wine must have been produced by or for the direct shipper, owned by the direct shipper or sold under the winery name of the direct shipper in accordance with the direct shipper's federal basic wine manufacturing permit.

Public Law 2023, chapter 604 also directs the bureau to examine data related to the direct shipment of wine in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the regulations related to compliance and enforcement and to submit a report no later than February 1, 2026 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over alcoholic beverage matters, which may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

LD 2178 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 20: Rules for the Licensure of Adult Use Cannabis Establishments, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 179 does not authorize final adoption of Chapter 20: Rules for the Licensure of Adult Use Cannabis Establishments, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy that was submitted to the Legislature for review pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375,

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subchapter 2-A. The resolve does not restrict the Legislature's authority to use another legislative instrument to approve all or part of Chapter 20.

Resolve 2023, chapter 179 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 24, 2024.

LD 2185 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 2: Medical Use of Cannabis Program Rule, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 168 does not authorize final adoption of Chapter 2: Medical Use of Cannabis Program Rule, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy that was submitted to the Legislature for review pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Resolve 2023, chapter 168 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 16, 2024.

LD 2186 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 30: Compliance Rules for Adult Use Cannabis Establishments, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 180 does not authorize final adoption of Chapter 30: Compliance Rules for Adult Use Cannabis Establishments, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy that was submitted to the Legislature for review pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. The resolve does not restrict the Legislature's authority to use another legislative instrument to approve all or part of Chapter 30.

Resolve 2023, chapter 180 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 24, 2024.

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LD 2187 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 10: Rules for the Administration of the Adult Use Cannabis Program, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 183 does not authorize final adoption of Chapter 10: Rules for the Administration of the Adult Use Cannabis Program, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy that was submitted to the Legislature for review pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. The resolve does not restrict the Legislature's authority to use another legislative instrument to approve all or part of Chapter 10.

Resolve 2023, chapter 183 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 28, 2024.

LD 2259 An Act to Prohibit Receiving Compensation for Assisting a Person to Obtain Veterans' Benefits Except as Permitted Under Federal Law

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 617 provides that a person may not receive compensation for services related to veterans' benefits matters except as permitted under federal law. It also provides that a person may not receive compensation for referring an individual to another person to provide services related to veterans' benefits matters. It provides that a person seeking to receive compensation for services related to veterans' benefits matters must, before rendering any services, memorialize in a written agreement that is signed by both parties and that complies with federal regulations all terms regarding the payment of fees for services rendered. It provides that a person may not receive excessive or unreasonable fees for services related to veterans' benefits matters. A violation of the provisions of the law constitutes a violation of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act.

An accredited representative of a recognized organization or an accredited agent or attorney under federal law and an employee of the Maine Veterans' Homes who is operating within that employee's capacity as an employee of the Maine Veterans' Homes is exempt from these provisions.