

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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685 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH FUNDING Rep. Ketover MAJ-OTP-ND
FOR PROGRAMS OF PREVENTIVE ID 1682
INTERVENTION AND FAMILY MIN-OTP-ND
SUPPORT ID 1683

SUMMARY: The bill increased the \$10 marriage license fee to \$20, and required that the \$10 increase be used by the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, through the Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee for Preschool Handicapped Children, for programs or agencies which provide intervention and support services to families which include infants and young children. The ICCPHC would promulgate rules for programs and agencies to apply for these grants, and annually would report to the Health and Institutional Services Committee.

There was some concern about the relatively small amount of money involved and the nature of the intervention and support services, but the major disagreement in the Committee came over the issue of a dedicated account.

Two new drafts came from the Committee: LD 1682 and LD 1683.

700 AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEFINITION Rep. Brannigan HSE-ENACT.
OF HOSPITAL IN THE MAINE HEALTH SEN-ENACT.
AND HIGHER EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES GOV-SIGNED
AUTHORITY ACT PL 83, c. 199

SUMMARY: The bill expanded the definition of "hospital" so it would include 2 or more hospitals or nursing homes; this would allow financing of joint projects.

It also amended what the Authority would have to consider before issuing a bond, namely that the project would solely enable a hospital or nursing home to provide health care or nursing care services.

The Committee Amendment kept the expanded definition of "hospital" but changed the second part of the bill. Two or more hospitals or nursing homes applying for bonding would have to demonstrate that their project was directly related to patient care.

741 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT SMOKING Rep. Andrews MAJ-OTP-ND
IN INDOOR PUBLIC WAITING AREAS ID 1597
MIN-ONTP

SUMMARY: The bill would have amended the ban on smoking in public proceedings to include smoking in any indoor public waiting areas, defined as areas where members of the public congregate as invitees while waiting for a service to be performed.

Opposition involved concern about "public" areas, which could include tenants within buildings, and the inadvisability of mixing areas of private employment, such as automobile showrooms, or professional offices, with public proceedings.