

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
HUMAN RESOURCES

JULY 1989

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Sen. Edwin C. Randall

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* Denotes Chair

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1989

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number for each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are abbreviated as follows:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
LARRIVEE	OTP-AM MAJ	H-495 MAJ REP
HOLLOWAY	ONTP MIN	
HOGLUND		
MANNING		

SUMMARY

The original bill provided that the liability of relatives under the general assistance laws falls on those relatives who are otherwise legally responsible for the persons needing assistance.

The Committee Amendment (H-495) permits municipalities to refuse to make general assistance payments for rent when the payments would be made to parents or grandparents, the rental relationship has not existed for three months and the rental payments are not necessary to provide basic necessities to the parent or grandparent. The amendment also clarifies that this section does not apply to burial expenses and modernizes the language relating to recovery of expenses.

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MOHOLLAND	OTP-AM	H-494
MARTIN J		
PRAY		
LOOK		

SUMMARY

The original bill provided that the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation may not change providers of community mental health services without making specified findings.

The Committee Amendment (H-494) deletes the findings provision but requires the Commissioner, by rule, to adopt standards identifying the situations under which the Department will request competitive bids for existing services.

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
MARTIN J	OTP-AM	H-594
CLARK N		
MELENDY		
COTE		

SUMMARY

This bill was intended to require the Department of Human Services to provide income supplementation to the spouse of a nursing home resident prior to implementation of a similar requirement under federal law beginning October 1, 1989.

The Committee Amendment (H-594) required the State to adopt the options under federal law, which becomes effective October 1, 1989, which provide the maximum monthly needs allowance and maximum level of resources to the spouse living in the community.