

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
HUMAN RESOURCES

JULY 1993

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**JULY 1993**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<i>ENACTMENT FAILED</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

4693NRG

**LD 241 An Act to Ensure Geographically Appropriate Placement for Nursing Home Residents**

PUBLIC 205

**SPONSOR(S)**  
PINGREE

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-171 TREAT  
S-143 PINGREE

**SUMMARY**

Prior to fiscal year 1992-93, elderly or disabled people in hospitals receiving Medicaid and awaiting placement in a nursing home could not be forced to take a nursing home placement more than 50 miles away from their homes. In the fiscal year 1992-93 budget, Public Law 1991, chapter 780, Part R, section 2, language was added that prohibits the Department of Human Services from allowing the distance provision, thus forcing patients to take placement regardless of where it was located. This bill removes that language so that the Department of Human Services may consider distance when providing nursing home placement.

Amendment H-171 establishes 60 miles as the maximum distance that a patient may be required to travel to accept a nursing facility placement.

Amendment S-143 clarifies that payment may be made for admission to a Maine Veteran's Home regardless of distance from the patient's home or hospital.

**LD 259 An Act to Reduce Hospital Costs**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
MITCHELL J

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

Currently, if a radiologist is not available at the time of treatment, hospitals conduct X-ray reviews after patients have been treated. Patients are charged for this after-the-fact review. The bill prohibits hospitals and other health care providers from charging patients or any other payor for these after-the-fact reviews, and requires the Maine Health Care Finance Commission to disallow costs associated with the reviews when establishing a hospital's financial requirements.

**LD 265 An Act to Restore the Availability of Prescription Drugs to Persons With HIV or AIDS**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
CATHCART

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill provides funds to supplement the drug reimbursement program serving persons diagnosed with HIV or AIDS.