

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
HUMAN RESOURCES

MAY 1994

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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

MAY 1994

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, 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:

PUBLIC XXX

P&S XXX

RESOLVE XXX

CON RES XXX

EMERGENCY

ONTP

INDEF PP

FAILED ENACTMENT

FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT

FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT

DIED BETWEEN BODIES

CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE

VETO SUSTAINED

UNSIGNED

DIED ON ADJOURNMENT

Chapter # of enacted Public Law

Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law

Chapter # of enacted Resolve

Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses

Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days

Ought Not to Pass report accepted

Bill Indefinitely Postponed

Bill failed to get majority vote

Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote

Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote

House & Senate disagree; bill died

Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died

Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Not signed by Governor within 10 days

Action incomplete when session ended; bill died

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If you have any suggestions or comments on the summaries, please let us know.

5581LHS

LD 999 An Act to Establish the Child Assistance Demonstration Program

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
CATHCART
PARADIS J

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill establishes the Child Assistance Demonstration Program as an alternative to the federal Aid to Families with Dependent Children Program to better assist families with child support orders to achieve economic independence. The Child Assistance Demonstration Program must be approved under the waiver provisions of the United States Social Security Act, Section 1115 before it can take effect.

LD 1026 An Act to Clarify the Requirements of Disclosure of Information Pertaining to Mentally Disabled Clients

PUBLIC 593

SPONSOR(S)
FITZPATRICK

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-805
H-930 FITZPATRICK

SUMMARY

This bill provides for disclosure of basic information, such as diagnosis, medication, side effects of medication and likely consequences of failure to take medication, to family members or care givers who live with and care for people with mental illness who are clients of the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. The bill permits disclosure only when a care giver lives with a client or provides care that prevents serious deterioration in that client's condition, the care giver makes a written request for the disclosure and the disclosure is in the best interests of the client.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT A (H-805) clarifies that persons permitted to release information under the bill are licensed mental health professionals. The amendment also allows clients to refuse requests for information and directs the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to establish an appeal process that may be used by persons who are denied access to information. The department is directed to work with consumers, providers, family members and advocates in developing the appeal process and other rules needed to implement the law. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

HOUSE AMENDMENT A (H-930) clarifies the appointment procedure by which the Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation appoints the members of the advisory committee established to assist the Department in establishing rules. It also prohibits the members of the advisory committee from receiving reimbursement of expenses or legislative per diem.

LD 1503 An Act to Encourage People in the State to Plan for Long-term Care

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
DUTREMBLE D
BERUBE
PINEAU

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill provides that, to the extent permitted by federal law, the amount of long-term care insurance coverage that a Medicaid applicant has is sheltered from consideration in determining Medicaid eligibility.