

# 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 1256      An Act to Authorize a Demonstration Needle Exchange Program      ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)                      COMMITTEE REPORT                      AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
MITCHELL J                      ONTP

**SUMMARY**

This bill allows the Bureau of Health within the Department of Human Services to authorize a demonstration needle exchange program to reduce the spread of HIV and other blood-borne diseases. If a program is authorized, its employees are granted immunity from criminal prosecution for trafficking, furnishing or possessing needles, and program participants are granted immunity from criminal prosecution for possessing needles. Authority to conduct the demonstration program is repealed on July 1, 1995.

See also LD 791, which removes the prescription requirement for syringes.

**LD 1274      An Act to Maintain Confidentiality of Medical Information      PUBLIC 295**  
**Reported to the Department of Human Services**

**SPONSOR(S)                      COMMITTEE REPORT                      AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
PENDLETON                      OTP

**SUMMARY**

This bill provides that all records of the Department of Human Services that contain personally identifying medical information that are created or obtained in connection with the department's public health activities or programs are confidential.

**LD 1284      An Act to Amend the Bill of Rights for Persons with Mental      PUBLIC 326**  
**Retardation**

**SPONSOR(S)                      COMMITTEE REPORT                      AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
GEAN                      OTP-AM                      H-437

**SUMMARY**

This bill amends the laws governing rights for persons with mental retardation so to use "people first" language, reflecting current philosophy in the field.

Amendment H-437 changes references to "persons with mental retardation" to "persons with mental retardation or autism" to reflect the Bureau of Mental Retardation's current statutory responsibility to provide services to people with autism. The amendment also repeals a section of the statutes that allows persons with mental retardation or autism to be isolated in a locked room. The amendment also makes a technical correction to the bill.