

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
BANKING AND INSURANCE**

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain III, Chair

Sen. Neria R. Douglass.

Sen. I. Joel Abromson

Rep. Jane W. Saxl, Chair

Rep. Christopher P. O'Neil

Rep. Joseph C. Perry

Rep. Benjamin F. Dudley

Rep. John G. Richardson, Jr.

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Rep. Kevin J. Glynn

Rep. Robert W. Nutting

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**ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees
August 1999**

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is organized by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

- CARRIED OVER*..... *Bill carried over to Second Regular Session*
- CON RES XXX*..... *Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses*
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*..... *Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died*
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*..... *House & Senate disagree; bill died*
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*..... *One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill*
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*..... *Action incomplete when session ended; bill died*
- EMERGENCY*..... *Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days*
- ENACTMENT FAILED*..... *Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage*
- NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY*..... *Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died*
- INDEF PP*..... *Bill Indefinitely Postponed*
- ONTP*..... *Ought Not To Pass report accepted*
- OTP ND*..... *Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft*
- OTP ND/NT*..... *Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title*
- P&S XXX*..... *Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*
- PUBLIC XXX*..... *Chapter # of enacted Public Law*
- RESOLVE XXX*..... *Chapter # of finally passed Resolve*
- UNSIGNED*..... *Bill held by Governor*
- VETO SUSTAINED*..... *Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto*

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999.

LD 33**An Act to Delay Implementation of a Separate Community Rate for Individuals Eligible for Medicare****PUBLIC 44
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERKINS	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-36

LD 33 proposed to repeal the community rating law that applies to individual and small group health insurance plans.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-36) was the majority report of the committee and replaced the bill. The amendment amended the title and proposed to delay until July 1, 2000 implementation by insurers of a separate community rate for individuals eligible for Medicare Part A without paying a premium. The amendment makes the bill retroactive to September 19, 1997.

The amendment also added an emergency preamble, emergency clause and a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Beginning July 1, 2000, Public Law 1999, chapter 44 allows insurers to establish a separate community rate for individuals eligible for Medicare Part A without paying a premium. This law applies the change retroactively to September 19, 1997.

Chapter 44 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 12, 1999.

LD 34**An Act to Protect the Choice of Hospital Care for HMO Enrollees****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAYO	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 34 proposed to prohibit nonprofit hospital and medical service organizations, preferred provider organizations, health insurers and health maintenance organizations from denying a provider, including a hospital, the right to participate in a managed care plan if the provider is willing to meet the terms and conditions of the agreement established by the managed care plan.

LD 69**An Act to Ensure Choice of Accredited Health Care Providers in Managed Care Programs****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCALEVEY	ONTP	

LD 69 proposed to prohibit nonprofit hospital and medical service organizations, preferred provider organizations, health insurers and health maintenance organizations from denying a health care provider the right to participate in a managed care plan if the provider provides health care services or supplies within the geographic coverage area of the plan and is willing to meet the terms and conditions of the managed care plan.