

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

JULY 1999

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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 134

An Act to Prohibit Family Planning Agencies from Using State Funds for Certain Expenses Related to Abortion Services

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> AHEARNE	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 134 proposed to prohibit the use of state funds for construction or rent payments for facilities at which abortion services are provided or to fund abortions or abortion referral services.

LD 143

An Act to Reduce Prescription Drug Costs and Increase Coverage

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TWOMEY	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 143 proposed to establish a prescription drug purchasing consortium and the Prescription Drug Distribution Program to enable the Department of Human Services to purchase drugs at favorable prices and make them available to consumers with incomes at or below 400% of the federal nonfarm income official poverty line. The bill proposed to establish a dedicated fund into which are placed the revenues from rebates and consumer purchases. The bill proposed an advisory committee that reports annually to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters and appropriations and financial affairs to oversee the program. See also LDs 206 and LD 2082.

LD 149

An Act to Enact a Medicaid Anti-kickback Law

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> COWGER TREAT	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 149 proposed to add an anti-kickback law to state Medicaid law. This bill proposed to make it a Class C crime for a person to offer, pay, solicit or receive remuneration of any kind in return for practices such as referring an individual for services or purchasing goods and services paid for by Medicaid.

LD 150

An Act to Require a Review of Contracts between Long-term Care Facilities and Consulting Pharmacists

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> COWGER CATHCART	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 150 proposed to require a nursing home to submit a copy of its agreement with a consulting pharmacist and require the Department of Human Services to review the agreement to ensure that the agreement does not violate state or federal law.