

# 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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Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell*

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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](http://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 1105**                      **Resolve, Regarding the Competitive Bidding Process for Mental Health Services**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 1105 proposed to require the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to adopt rules regarding contracting for mental health services.

**LD 1106**                      **An Act to Establish Ratios of Direct-care Providers to Nursing Home Residents**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAXL J GOLDTHWAIT	ONTP	

LD 1106 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to establish specific ratios of direct-care nursing staff to patients in nursing homes.

**LD 1125**                      **An Act to Modify the State's Safe Drinking Water Laws**                      **PUBLIC 77**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKEE BERUBE	OTP-AM	H-92

LD 1125 proposed to authorize the Commissioner of Human Services to require each community water system to prepare and provide to each customer of the system at least once annually a consumer confidence report containing information required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. It proposed to clarify state laws to better reflect the federal law authorizing the state revolving loan funds. The bill also proposed to provide public water systems the maximum loan terms allowable under the federal state revolving loan fund legislation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-92)** proposed to clarify that the consumer confidence report covers levels of detected regulated contaminants and detected unregulated contaminants for which monitoring is required.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 77 authorizes the Commissioner of Human Services to require each community water system to prepare and provide to each customer of the system at least once annually a consumer confidence report containing information required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and it clarifies state laws to better reflect the federal law authorizing the state revolving loan funds. It also provides public water systems the maximum loan terms allowable under the federal state revolving loan fund legislation. It clarifies that the consumer confidence report covers levels of detected regulated contaminants and detected unregulated contaminants for which monitoring is required.