

# 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](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.

emergency shelters and transitional living programs. The bill would have involved the Interagency Task Force on Homelessness and Housing Opportunities in these efforts. See also LD 1623, LD 2187 and LD 1685.

**LD 1963                      An Act to Establish the Maine Council on Aging                      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> FULLER		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1963 proposes to establish the Maine Council on Aging as an independent advisory council. The council's duties would include advising, consulting and assisting the executive and legislative branches of State Government on issues and activities related to older people; advocating on behalf of older people; disseminating information, sponsoring forums and holding a statewide Blaine House Conference on Aging at least every 2 years.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.

**LD 1984                      An Act to Establish Department of Human Services Review Panels                      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CAMPBELL RUHLIN		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1984 proposes to establish 6 regional Department of Human Services review panels to review all services provided by the department for efficiency and cost effectiveness. The panels would report to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over human services matters and make recommendations to the Commissioner of Human Services.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.

**LD 2015                      An Act to Amend the Health Care Receivership Laws                      PUBLIC 384**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KANE		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-610
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LD 2015 proposed to add general and specialty hospitals, critical access hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, hospice agencies and end stage renal disease units to the list of facilities for which the Department of Human Services can exercise its receivership authority to protect the patients of these facilities.

This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Human Services.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-610)** proposed to add the following provisions to the bill.

1. It proposed to provide that rules regarding congregate housing services programs are routine technical rules.