MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

JULY 2000

MEMBERS:
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Sen. Georgette B. Berube
Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell

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Maine State Legislature

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
July 2000

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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:

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*
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE ..... *Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote*
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE ..... *Bill failed to get majority vote*
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT ..... *Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote*
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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

years of age and who are leaving the care of a department to undertake job training and to pursue education and housing programs.

3. The resolve proposed to establish a study of the impact of legislative changes over the last 8 years to General Assistance. The study would focus on effectiveness, administrative practices at the local and state level, cost of delivering General Assistance, client benefits and the effect on homelessness. This resolve proposed to establish a 9-member task force to conduct the study and submit a report of its findings, together with any recommended implementing legislation to the Legislature by March 1, 2000. The resolve proposed to appropriate $5,000 through the Department of Human Services to pay for the study.

4. The resolve proposed to increase the funding for the Temporary Housing Assistance Program by $250,000, from $250,000 to $500,000. The amount increased would be dedicated to serve homeless families or homeless youths staying in shelters by providing security deposits and rental assistance. The Community Action Agencies would administer the dedicated funds.

The total amount of the proposed appropriations contained in this resolve equals $1,025,000.

LD 2212 **An Act to Revise Laws Regarding Persons with Mental Retardation** **ONTP**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
KANE RAND	ONTP	

LD 2212 proposed to revise and update the laws in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-B dealing with persons with mental retardation or autism in order to more accurately reflect current practices and to bring the law into compliance with judicial mandates.

LD 2269 **An Act to Make Changes to the Cub Care Program** **INDEF PP**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
FULLER	OTP-AM	

LD 2269 proposed to make the following changes to the laws governing the Cub Care program. It proposed to allow the program to serve children who have not attained one year of age and set premiums for families with incomes between 185% and 200% of the nonfarm income official poverty line.

See Public Law 1999, chapter 731, Part PP.