

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*

*Rep. Thomas J. Kane, Chair
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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

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCGLOCKLIN TREAT	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-868
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LD 2415 proposed to provide information about services to help low-income families in order to maintain employment and to eliminate certain barriers to receiving food stamps for those families. Under current law there is a vehicle asset limit that prevents certain families that own dependable vehicles from receiving food stamps. This bill proposed to authorize certain low-income households to receive referral services through the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families block grant, and to make such households categorically eligible for food stamps.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-868) proposed to change references in the bill from "minor child" to "child who would be a dependent child under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program," and to add a fiscal note.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 637 provides information about services to help low-income families maintain employment and to eliminate certain barriers to receiving food stamps for those families. Under current law there is a vehicle asset limit that prevents certain families that own dependable vehicles from receiving food stamps. This law allows certain low-income households to receive referral services through the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families block grant and makes such households categorically eligible for food stamps.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SCHNEIDER	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2434 proposed to authorize an individual eligible for the consumer-directed personal assistance services program to hire certain family members as personal assistants to the degree permitted by federal law, retroactively to the date the federal law was effective. This bill proposed to direct the Department of Human Services to adopt rules to implement this provision.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 615 authorizes an individual eligible for the consumer-directed personal assistance services program to hire certain family members as personal assistants to the degree permitted by federal law, retroactively to the date the federal law was effective. This law directs the Department of Human Services to adopt rules to implement this provision.