

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
BANKING AND INSURANCE**

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain III, Chair

Sen. Neria R. Douglass.

Sen. I. Joel Abromson

Rep. Jane W. Saxl, Chair

Rep. Christopher P. O'Neil

Rep. Joseph C. Perry

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Rep. Kevin J. Glynn

Rep. Robert W. Nutting

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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.

Department of Human Services during an examination of the quality of health care services delivered by the health maintenance organization; and

14. It clarifies the minimum benefits standards applicable to multiple-employer welfare arrangements and authorizes the Superintendent of Insurance to exempt certain arrangements from offering the standard and basic plans.

LD 2225 An Act to Permit Certain Referrals by Health Care Practitioners CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAXL M		

LD 2225 proposes to allow a referral to another office or group of health care practitioners, regardless of whether the referring physician holds an investment interest in that office or group. Current law prohibits a health care practitioner from referring a patient to another facility in which the practitioner holds an interest unless the practitioner will be personally responsible for the provision of care to that patient..

LD 2225 has been carried over to the Second Regular Session.

**SP 640 Joint Order - Relative to Establishing a Joint Select Committee to Study ONTP
Third-Party Payments to Health Care Providers**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KILKELLY	ONTP - MAJ	

This joint order proposed to establish a joint select committee to study third-party payments to health care providers. The select committee would have consisted of seven members and would have been charged with studying the problems of delays in payments by health insurance companies to health care providers and the cash-flow problems this creates for providers. The joint order proposed to have the study report submitted by January 1, 2000 to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services Committee and the Joint Standing Committee on Banking and Insurance.