

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

*State Of Maine  
121st Legislature*

*First Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Health and Human Services*

*July 2003*

**Staff:**

*Jane Orbeton, Senior Analyst  
Lucia Nixon, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
13 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670*

**Members:**

*Sen. Michael F. Brennan, Chair  
Sen. John L. Martin  
Sen. Carol Weston*

*Rep. Thomas J. Kane, Chair  
Rep. Edward R. Dugay  
Rep. Marie Laverriere-Boucher  
Rep. Margaret M. Craven  
Rep. William M. Earle  
Rep. William R. Walcott  
Rep. Thomas F. Shields  
Rep. Darlene J. Curley  
Rep. James J. Campbell, Sr.  
Rep. Sarah O. Lewin*

# Maine State Legislature



## Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis Office Of Fiscal And Program Review

### 121st Maine Legislature First Regular Session

#### Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint 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 committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name 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:

<i>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i> .....	<i>Bills carried over to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i> .....	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i> .....	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i> .....	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i> .....	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i> .....	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i> .....	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i> .....	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i> .....	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i> .....	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP-ND</i> .....	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i> .....	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i> .....	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> .....	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 13, 2003.

**David C. Elliott, Director**  
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

*Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services*

**LD 849**

**An Act To Ensure Fairness in Maine's Prescription Drug Laws**

**ONTP**

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

LD 849 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to receive approval from the drug committee, established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-M, subsection 2, prior to establishing any mechanisms to monitor or restrict the manner in which physicians prescribe drugs or Medicaid program recipients have access to drugs. The bill also proposed to require that 2 members of the committee must be psychiatrists, one a child psychiatrist and one an adult psychiatrist. (See LD 1288.)

**LD 866**

**An Act Concerning Recovery of Expenses under the General Assistance Laws**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SMITH W MARTIN	ONTP	

LD 866 proposed to require that reasonable attorney's fees and litigation costs be deducted from retroactive Supplemental Security Income benefits and Worker's Compensation lump sum payments before the state and municipalities would be reimbursed for providing General Assistance while an individual's Supplemental Security Income claim or Worker's Compensation claim was pending.

**LD 878**

**An Act To Provide Peer Support and Advocacy Services To Participants in the ASPIRE-TANF Program and the Parents as Scholars Program**

**PUBLIC 351**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAVERRIERE- BOUCHER MAYO	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-398

LD 878 proposed to direct the Department of Human Services to contract with a nonprofit entity or entities to establish a peer support advocacy demonstration project in 4 different regions of the State to provide information and advocacy services to ASPIRE-TANF program and Parents as Scholars Program participants.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-398)** was the majority report and proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to direct the Department of Human Services to establish a volunteer peer support and advocacy demonstration project in 4 of its offices to provide information, support and advocacy services to ASPIRE-TANF program and Parents as Scholars Program participants. The amendment also proposed to require the department to report on the project to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by March 1, 2004. The