

# 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*

amendment proposed to add a sunset provision that would repeal the project July 1, 2005. The amendment proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

### *Enacted Law Summary*

Public Law 2003, chapter 351 directs 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 law requires the department to report on the project to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by March 1, 2004. The law includes a sunset provision that repeals the project July 1, 2005.

**LD 896**                      **Resolve, To Establish a System for Electronic Filing of Death Certificates**                      **RESOLVE 27**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAYO RICHARDSON J	OTP-AM	S-104

LD 896 proposed to direct the State Board of Funeral Services and the State Registrar of Vital Statistics jointly to establish a system for electronic filing of death certificates with municipal clerks and with the State.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-104)** proposed to require the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health to convene an advisory committee on the development of a plan and funding for an electronic death certificate filing system. It proposed to require a report back by January 15, 2004 to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It proposed to require the Bureau of Health to provide staffing for the work of the advisory committee.

### *Enacted Law Summary*

Resolve 2003, chapter 27 requires the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health to convene an advisory committee on the development of a plan and funding for an electronic death certificate filing system. It requires a report back by January 15, 2004 to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It requires the Bureau of Health to provide staffing for the work of the advisory committee.

**LD 903**                      **Resolve, Regarding Consumer Information for Medicare Beneficiaries**                      **RESOLVE 55**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAMON	OTP-AM	S-199

LD 903 proposed to require the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, the Bureau of Insurance to amend its rule relating to guaranteed issue of Medicare supplement insurance policies to allow an individual who was previously enrolled in a Medicare supplement policy to obtain that same coverage when the individual loses eligibility under the MaineCare program. The resolve proposed to require the bureau to amend the rule by January 1, 2004.

*Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services*

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-199)** proposed to direct the Department of Human Services and the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance to work with a statewide organization providing legal services for the elderly and other consumer advocates to examine current practices for providing information to Medicare beneficiaries about Medicare supplement policies and to develop practices and procedures for providing information.

***Enacted Law Summary***

Resolve 2003, chapter 55 directs the Department of Human Services and the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance to work with a statewide organization providing legal services for the elderly and other consumer advocates to examine current practices for providing information to Medicare beneficiaries about Medicare supplement policies and to develop practices and procedures for providing information.

**LD 973**                      **An Act To Ensure Comprehensive Cancer Control in Maine**                      **PUBLIC 215**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARTIN MCLAUGHLIN	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-105
---	-----------------------------------	------------------------------------

LD 973 proposed to establish a cancer prevention and control program to provide leadership for and coordination of cancer prevention, research and treatment activities within the State. The program would be authorized to receive federal grant money. The program would consult with statewide organizations concerned with the treatment and prevention of cancer.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-105)** proposed to add an allocation section that reflects the establishment of 2 federally funded positions and the transfer of federal funding from contract use to staff position use.

***Enacted Law Summary***

Public Law 2003, chapter 215 establishes a cancer prevention and control program to provide leadership for and coordination of cancer prevention, research and treatment activities within the State. The program is authorized to receive federal grant money. The program will consult with statewide organizations concerned with the treatment and prevention of cancer.

**LD 982**                      **An Act To Increase the Legal Age for the Purchase of Tobacco Products**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 982 proposed to raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco and tobacco products from 18 years of age to 19 years of age beginning January 1, 2004, to 20 years of age beginning January 1, 2005 and to 21 years of age beginning January 1, 2006.