

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
121st Legislature*

*Second Regular Session and  
Second Special Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Health and Human Services*

*May 2004*

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*Maine State Legislature*



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

*121st Maine Legislature  
Second Regular Session and  
Second Special 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/billsumm.htm](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla/billsumm.htm)).

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*
- P&S XXX..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*
- PASSED..... Joint Order passed in both bodies*
- 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 that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is April 30, 2004; and non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Special Session is July 30, 2004. Four bills (LD's 1572, 1629, 1636 and 1637) that were considered at the First Special Session in August 2003 are also included in these summaries.

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## *Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services*

by January 15, 2005 and a final report by January 15, 2006. It also proposed to authorize the joint standing committee to report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 122<sup>nd</sup> Legislature based on the report of the general assistance committee.

### ***Enacted Law Summary***

Resolve 2003, chapter 116 requires the Department of Human Services to convene a general assistance committee composed of persons interested in the administration of municipal general assistance. The resolve directs the committee to make policy recommendations regarding general assistance and to report submit a progress report by January 15, 2005 and final recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over human services matters by January 15, 2006. The resolve also authorizes the joint standing committee to report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 122<sup>nd</sup> Legislature based on the report of the general assistance committee.

### **LD 1090**

### **Resolve, To Promote Recruitment and Retention of Direct Care Workers in Long-term Care in Maine**

**RESOLVE 113**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EDMONDS LAVERRIERE-BOUC	OTP-AM	H-743 KANE S-402

LD 1090 proposed to provide funds to increase compensation to direct care workers and create demonstration grants for retention of direct care workers in nursing facilities, residential care facilities and home health care. The resolve also proposed to direct the Department of Human Services to study wages, benefits and reimbursement for these workers and report back to the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-402)** proposed to replace the resolve. It proposed to require continuing work on the recruitment and retention of direct care workers and to provide for a report by January 15, 2005 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-743)** proposed to clarify that the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters has authority to report legislation to the First Regular Session of the 122nd Legislature.

### ***Enacted Law Summary***

Resolve 2003, chapter 113 requires continuing work on the recruitment and retention of direct care workers and provides for a report by January 15, 2005 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters. It authorizes the joint standing committee to report legislation to the First Regular Session of the 122nd Legislature.