

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

*First Regular Session and
First Special Session*

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

August 2005

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Maine State Legislature

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122nd Legislature
First Regular Session and First Special Session

Summary of Legislation Considered by the Joint Standing Committees
August 2005

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 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. A subject index for each committee is included immediately before the bill summaries for that committee, and a numerical index by LD number is included 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
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 29, 2005; and for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session is September 17, 2005.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 37 **Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Seek Federal Funding To Serve Immigrant and Refugee Populations in Need of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment** **RESOLVE 18 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BRENNAN WALCOTT	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-124
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LD 37 proposed to direct the Department of Health and Human Services to develop as a demonstration project mental health and substance abuse treatment programs for immigrant and refugee populations.

Committee Amendment “A” (S-124) proposed to change the title and replace the bill. It also proposed to direct the Department of Health and Human Services to seek federal funding to provide substance abuse and mental health treatment programs for immigrant or refugee persons residing in the State and to provide a progress report to certain legislative committees.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2005, chapter 18, section 1 directs the Department of Health and Human Services to seek federal funding in order to provide substance abuse and mental health treatment programs for immigrant or refugee persons residing in the State. If funding is obtained, the department may establish one or more statewide programs to provide these services to this population.

Section 2 directs the Department of Health and Human Services to report to certain Legislative committees by November 15, 2005 on the department’s progress in securing federal funding; and if funding has been secured, the department shall at least report the progress made in developing the program, staff development and training efforts, program locations and populations served.

Chapter 18 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 13, 2005.

LD 42 **An Act To Expand the Maine Economic Improvement Fund** **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> FISCHER MARTIN	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-281
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LD 42 proposed to provide additional ongoing funds to the Maine Economic Improvement Fund within the University of Maine System.

Committee Amendment “A” (H-281) proposed to reduce the appropriation from \$2,000,000 each year to \$1,000,000 each year.

This bill, and its adopted amendment, were carried over on the Special Appropriations Table by S. P. 640 to the next special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature.