

# 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  
Health and Human Services*

*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 Health and Human Services*

**LD 349**                      **An Act To Require That the Department of Health and Human Services Include a Bureau of Elder Services**                      **INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CAMPBELL MAYO	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 349 proposed to require that the bureaus established within the Department of Health and Human Services include the Bureau of Elder Services.

**LD 359**                      **An Act To Change the Child Care Facility Licensing Laws**                      **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DUPREY	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-346
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LD 359 proposed to require that a license for a child care facility be issued for a 2-year term, that the Department of Health and Human Services make at least one unannounced inspection of a child care facility within the 2-year license term and that the fee for a 2-year child care facility license be \$160.

The bill was carried over on the Special Appropriations Table by S.P. 640 to the next special or regular session of the 122<sup>nd</sup> Legislature.

**LD 367**                      **An Act To Monitor and Maintain Maximum Levels of Assistance in the General Assistance Program**                      **PUBLIC 231**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BRENNAN PINGREE	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 367 proposed to require that beginning October 2005 and annually thereafter, the aggregate maximum level of general assistance must be established at the greater of 110% of the fair market rents and the amount achieved by annually increasing the most recent aggregate maximum level of general assistance by the percentage increase in the federal poverty level of the current year over the prior year.

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2005, chapter 231 requires that beginning October 2005 and annually thereafter, the aggregate maximum level of general assistance must be established at the greater of 110% of the fair market rents or the amount achieved by annually increasing the most recent aggregate maximum level of general assistance by the percentage increase in the federal poverty level of the current year over the prior year.