

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature coming from the

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

July 2007

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STATE OF MAINE

123RD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

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 (or Accepted ONTP report).....	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 non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

LD 727

**An Act To Expand the Definition of Health Care Facility under the
Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority Act**

**PUBLIC 72
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLER TURNER	OTP-AM	H-55

This bill incorporates health information networks into the definition of "health care facility" so that infrastructure needs of health care facilities are part of the Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority Act.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-55)

This amendment replaces the bill. It retains the provisions of the bill that add a statewide health information network to the definition of "health care facility" for eligibility for funding through the Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority and adds to that definition hospice facilities that are or will be licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services. It adds an emergency preamble and an emergency clause to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 72 adds to the Maine Health and Higher Education Facilities Act law hospice facilities and a statewide health information network.

Public Law 2007, chapter 72 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 4, 2007.

See also LD 500.

LD 753

**Resolve, To Invest in Children and Families through Family Resource
Centers**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FAIRCLOTH EDMONDS	ONTP	

This resolve makes one-time General Fund appropriations of \$720,000 in fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09 for 6 family resource centers to operate throughout the State and provide an array of services to families.

LD 754

An Act To Allow Physician Assistants To Sign Death Certificates

PUBLIC 56

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERRY A	OTP	

This bill allows a physician assistant to sign death certificates.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 56 allows a physician assistant to sign a death certificate.