

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

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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 755

Resolve, To Create the Commission To Develop a Strategic Priorities Plan for Maine's Young Children

**RESOLVE 136
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FAIRCLOTH EDMONDS	OTP-AM	H-216

This bill appropriates funds to increase the quality of child care services in Maine by identifying and implementing best practices and by addressing current limits on access to high-quality care based on a parent's ability to pay.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-216)

This amendment changes the legislation from an act to a resolve and makes the resolve emergency legislation. It establishes a 13-member commission that includes 8 Legislators and 3 members of the public representing business, organized labor and child care providers and a 4th public representative with experience as an actuary or economist who has analyzed the relationship between early childhood development and economic development. The commission is charged with: working with experts on the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs to evaluate existing information from task forces, reports and other scientific data on early childhood and brain development; identifying the current and future economic needs of employers and parents and the links to early child care and education; involving parents, providers of all levels of child care, representatives of business, health experts and economists; evaluating and reviewing, in consultation with the Maine Children's Trust, best practices related to parenting education, coaching and home visit programs; examining the multiple levels of relationship between early childhood brain development and the needs of parents and employers; considering the need for the State to receive its best return on the investment of tax dollars; consulting with people involved in the initiatives "Start ME Right" and "Invest in ME Now!" and considering the recommendations from the Task Force on Early Childhood and from the report entitled "Invest Early in Maine: A Working Plan for Humane Early Childhood Systems." The commission shall develop a 3-year investment strategy that will identify the amount of the investment each year; prioritize programs, both new and existing, to be invested in; identify expected outcomes for children and the economy; develop a timeline for those outcomes; and identify funding sources, including, but not limited to, current resources that need to be shifted, new funds and alternate funding sources that are needed. The commission shall provide a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Standing Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development, the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, as well as to the Legislative Council. The commission is not authorized to introduce legislation. Following receipt and review of the report, the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 136 which is titled to "Resolve, To Create the Commission To Develop a Strategic Priorities Plan for Maine's Young Children" establishes a 13-member commission charged with: working with experts on the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs to evaluate existing information from task forces, reports and other scientific data on early childhood and brain development; identifying the current and future economic needs of employers and parents and the links to early child care and education; involving parents, providers of all levels of child care, representatives of business, health experts and economists; evaluating and reviewing, in consultation with the Maine Children's Trust, best practices related to parenting education, coaching and home visit programs; examining the multiple levels of relationship between early childhood brain development and the needs of parents and employers; considering the need for the State to receive its best return on the investment of tax dollars; consulting with people involved in the initiatives "Start ME Right" and "Invest in ME Now!" and considering the recommendations from the Task Force on Early Childhood and from the report entitled "Invest Early in Maine: A Working Plan for Humane Early Childhood Systems." The commission shall develop a 3-year investment strategy that will identify the amount of the investment each year; prioritize programs, both new and existing, to be invested in; identify expected outcomes and a timeline for those outcomes; and identify funding

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

sources. The commission shall provide a report to 5 Joint Standing Committees as well as to the Legislative Council. The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

Resolve 2007, chapter 136 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 27, 2007.

LD 770 An Act To Clarify Application of the Medical Marijuana Law BY ONTP
REQUEST

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

This bill amends the medical marijuana law to extend it to cover persons suffering from Crohn's disease and agitation from Alzheimer's disease.

See also LD 148.

LD 792 Resolve, To Direct the Department of Health and Human Services To RESOLVE 58
Review and Report on Efforts Concerning Postpartum Mental Health
Education

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SULLIVAN	OTP-AM	S-111

This bill requires health care practitioners and facilities to provide information on and screening for prenatal and postpartum mental health issues to pregnant women and mothers of children under one year of age. It also requires them to provide information to the partners, spouses or fathers and family members, as appropriate.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-111)

This amendment changes the legislation to a resolve and requires the Department of Health and Human Services to convene, in coordination with the Maine Primary Care Association, a work group that will review existing efforts in Maine and projects in other states concerning education and screening for postpartum depression. The bill specifies some projects that must be included in the review and requires the work group to report findings and recommendations including legislation by January 15, 2008. The resolve authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 58 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to convene, in coordination with the Maine Primary Care Association, a work group that will review existing efforts in Maine and projects in other states concerning education and screening for postpartum depression. It specifies some projects that must be included in the review and requires the work group to report findings and recommendations including legislation by January 15, 2008. The bill authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.