

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

August 2017

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*Committee member for a portion of the session

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128TH LEGISLATURE
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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 128th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

CARRIED OVER..... carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
CON RES XXX..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCY..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX..... chapter # of enacted public law
RESOLVE XXX..... chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

LD 1481

Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Project To Provide Travel Vouchers to Persons with Disabilities in Rural Communities

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This resolve incorporates the recommendations of the Statewide Independent Living Council's travel voucher working group convened pursuant to Public Law 2015, chapter 452, section 3. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to issue a request for proposals for a one-year pilot project to develop travel voucher transportation programs for individuals with disabilities living in rural areas of the State. The department is required to report on the progress and implementation of the project to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than November 30, 2018.

This resolve was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

LD 1485 An Act Regarding MaineCare Coverage for Telehealth Services

PUBLIC 307

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

GRATWICK G
MASTRACCIO A

OTP-AM

S-205
S-328 HAMPER J

This bill requires that services under MaineCare that are provided through telehealth be reimbursed at the same rates as those services that are not provided through telehealth. The bill also requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rule relating to MaineCare coverage for services delivered through telehealth.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-205)

This amendment establishes an advisory group within the Department of Health and Human Services to study telehealth and telemonitoring. It changes the guidance for rulemaking by the department. It changes the date of the required annual report from the department to the Legislature. It also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-328)

This amendment removes the appropriations and allocations section from Committee Amendment "A."

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 307 establishes an advisory group within the Department of Health and Human Services to study telehealth and telemonitoring. It defines the services under MaineCare that are provided through telehealth. It allows the Department of Health and Human Services to solicit, apply for and receive grants that support telehealth and telemonitoring. It requires the Department of Health and Human services to report to the Joint Standing Committee of Health and Human Services annually beginning January 1, 2018, on the use of telehealth in the MaineCare program. The bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rule relating to MaineCare coverage for services delivered through telehealth and provides guidance for rulemaking to the Department.