

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

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

October 2018

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contain summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Special, Second Regular and Second Special Sessions 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 dates for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special, Second Regular or Second Special Sessions of the 128th Legislature are: Monday, February 5, 2018; Wednesday, August 1, 2018; and Thursday, December 13, 2018, respectively. 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

website.

7. It establishes the Child Care Appeal Review Panel to review disputes related to the licensing and certification of child care facilities. This includes revocations, suspensions, denials, demotions to conditional status, rule compliance issues and denials of requests for alternative compliance methods. The review panel members are appointed by the Governor for five-year terms. The director of the office of licensing and regulatory services within the department is the chair of the panel but does not vote. The Office of the Attorney General provides legal counsel to the review panel. The department is required to abide by decisions made by the review panel.

8. It allows a child care provider to employ on a provisional basis an employee for 90 days before receiving a background check report from the Background Check Center.

9. It requires the department to develop a sliding scale plan to allow recipients of child care subsidies to keep part of the subsidy for a period of time after the recipient earns sufficient income to no longer be eligible for the subsidy. The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services is authorized to report out a bill relating to eliminating the so-called welfare cliff with respect to child care subsidies after receiving the plan.

10. It requires the department to make a number of changes to rules governing licensed child care facilities and certified family child care providers regarding staff-child ratios, qualifications of staff, providing inspection reports to facilities at the time of inspection, removing requirements for references for owners and staff, removing requirements of spare clothing and removing specific requirements for the type of food provided.

LD 1481 Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Project To Provide Travel Vouchers to ONTP
Persons with Disabilities in Rural Communities

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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This resolve was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the Second Regular Session.

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.

LD 1494 An Act To Increase the Availability of Foster Homes Died On
Adjournment

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SANDERSON D	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-396
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This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the Second Regular Session. The bill was then carried over on the Special Appropriations Table from the Second Regular Session to the next special session by joint order S.P. 748.

This bill eliminates the requirement that the State Fire Marshal inspect a family foster home and certify that it meets

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all elements of the fire safety code before the Department of Health and Human Services may issue a license to operate as a family foster home. The bill moves the inspection responsibility to the Department of Health and Human Services, which is directed to adopt rules governing the method of inspection.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-396)

The amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

LD 1495 An Act To Break the Generational Cycle of Domestic Violence

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HEAD F BRAKEY E	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the Second Regular Session.

This bill provides that a nonprofit organization that provides counseling and educational services to children who are affected by domestic violence and that receives referrals from a parent, guardian or relative of a child affected by domestic violence or a school, law enforcement agency, health care organization, health care provider or domestic violence resource center may apply to the Department of Health and Human Services for funding for these services. The bill directs the department to divide the State into eight regions for purposes of providing funding to these nonprofit organizations and to provide funding in all eight regions. In determining which nonprofit organizations to fund, the department must consider, among other factors, how much money each nonprofit organization spends on administration versus direct services and must give special consideration to nonprofit organizations that minimize administrative expenses and to nonprofit organizations in rural areas. Services provided by the nonprofit organization must be targeted to children who are two years of age or older and under 12 years of age. The bill provides that the department must report on the implementation of these provisions to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public safety matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters no later than November 7, 2018.

LD 1517 Resolve, To Ensure Access to Behavioral Health Services

**Died On
Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERRY A CHIPMAN B	OTP-AM ONTP	H-491

This bill was reported out of committee as a resolve in the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature and then carried over to the Second Regular Session on the Special Appropriations Table. This resolve was again carried over, still on the Special Appropriations Table, from the Second Regular Session to the next special session by joint order S.P. 748.

This bill establishes the Behavioral Health Oversight Council to review reimbursement rate-setting for certain behavioral health services provided under MaineCare and advise the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, the Commissioner of Corrections and the Commissioner of Public Safety regarding the behavioral health system in the State. It sets out requirements for reimbursement rate-setting to be used by the Department of Health and Human Services to determine rates for certain behavioral health services provided under MaineCare. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules in Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Sections 13, 17, 23, 28, 65 and 97 to increase reimbursement rates by fiscal year 2018-19 to reflect a 20%