

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

3. It provides that mandatory testing of medical marijuana and medical marijuana products may be conducted by testing facilities licensed under either the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act or the Marijuana Legalization Act

4. It imposes a special tax of 20% on retail marijuana and retail marijuana products sold by retail marijuana stores and retail marijuana social clubs to ensure that the tax revenue generated is sufficient to fund enforcement and regulation with respect to the retail marijuana industry. It also provides that in addition to this special tax, retail marijuana and retail marijuana products are subject to the state sales tax.

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

LD 1538

An Act To Provide Supplemental Nutrition Assistance to Veterans and Rental Assistance to Long-term Homeless Persons

Died Between Houses

Sponsor(s)

HAMANN S
CHIPMAN B

Committee Report

OTP-AM
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill exempts veterans who are otherwise eligible for assistance under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program from time limits that would otherwise apply to the veterans. It also requires 5% of the Bridging Rental Assistance Program funding to be used to assist individuals who have been homeless for long periods of time. The Department of Health and Human Services is directed to establish five case management positions to provide services to individuals receiving housing assistance and community mental health services under MaineCare.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-399)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, removes the sections of the bill related to the Bridging Rental Assistance Program and retains only the section related to the eligibility of veterans for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. This amendment also provides funding to the Department of Health and Human Services for technology changes necessary to implement the bill.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1539 An Act To Amend Maine's Medical Marijuana Law

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)

SANDERSON D

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill amends the laws governing the cultivation, possession and use of medical marijuana. It:

1. Amends definitions to add terms and to expand upon or provide clarity for existing terms;
2. Amends the qualifying condition of intractable pain to include pain that a medical provider determines is not managed effectively by prescription narcotics and allows a medical provider the discretion to issue a written certification for any medical condition that the physician believes may be alleviated by the patient's using marijuana for medical use. It also requires consultation with a minimum of three medical professionals, one of whom may be selected by the petitioner, prior to accepting or denying a petition to add a debilitating medical condition as a qualifying condition;
3. Replaces the limit of two and a half ounces of marijuana that may be dispensed to a qualifying patient who is a