MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

 130^{TH} Legislature First Regular and First Special Sessions



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

December 2021

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*Committee member for a portion of the session

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LD 269 An Act To Prohibit Smoking in Bus Shelters

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 57 clarifies that bus shelters are considered enclosed public spaces where smoking is prohibited.

LD 330 An Act To Improve the Process of Disposal of Hospice Medications Used in the Home

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 193 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to establish minimum criteria for the written policy for medication disposal that is required for use by hospice providers who provide services in the home. The written policy must include guidance that a care plan may include controlled substances, safe use and storage of controlled substances, documentation that the family is expected to dispose of any medications after the death of the client, information on safe disposal, return envelopes or other appropriate disposal kits and advance notice that the hospice provider will be contacting the family after death with a reminder that the family is expected to dispose of medications. The hospice provider must retain signed documentation that the written policy was provided and discussed. The hospice provider is required to send a letter within 30 days of the death of the patient reminding the family of the disposal policy.

LD 335 An Act To Clarify Requirements for Criminal History Record Checks Pursuant to the Federal Family First Prevention Services Act

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

The federal Family First Prevention Services Act requires fingerprint-based background checks of staff of any "child-care institution, including a group home, residential treatment center, shelter or other congregate care setting." Public Law 2021, chapter 42 requires the background check requirements in Maine law to also apply to emergency children's shelters, shelters for homeless children and any group home that provides care for children to conform to the federal law.

Public Law 2021, chapter 42 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 5, 2021.