

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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182	AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE USE OF GENERIC DRUGS IN THE LOW-COST DRUG PROGRAM FOR THE ELDERLY	Rep. C.B. Smith	MAJ-ONTP MIN-OTP-A HSE-ENACT. SEN-ENACT. GOV-SIGNED PL 83, c. 66
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SUMMARY: The bill added to the Elderly Low-cost Drug program a new provision that generically equivalent drugs be used, unless the prescribing physician indicated otherwise.

The Department of Human Services pointed out that this provision was in their regulations for the program. The Committee Amendment (H-23), attached to the Minority Report which was adopted, added these regulatory provisions to the law. Thus the drugs must be of good quality, and the pharmacist retains his discretion whether to dispense the generically or chemically equivalent drugs.

194	AN ACT TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT POWERS OF HOSPITAL ADMINIS- TRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 1	Rep. MacEachern	OTP-ND LD 1150
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SUMMARY: The emergency bill would have allowed the Hospital Administrative District (first established in 1967 by a Private and Special Law) to establish affiliated organizations, to issue bonds for operating expenses, and to pay directors "a fee," rather than the \$8 currently specified, for attendance at meetings.

The district was particularly concerned to be able to provide doctors' offices, and to issue bonds for operating expenses without action by the voters of the district.

206	AN ACT TO PROVIDE FURLOUGHS FROM COUNTY JAILS FOR 3 DAYS OR MORE IF REASON IS CONSISTENT WITH THE REHABILITATION OF AN INMATE OR PRISONER	Rep. Joyce	OTP-A HSE-ENACT. SEN-ENACT. GOV-SIGNED PL 83, c. 62
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SUMMARY: Under current law, furloughs for inmates of county jails were permitted only for death-bed visits or for medical treatment. The bill expanded that to allow furloughs for any reasons consistent with the inmate's rehabilitation.

The Committee Amendment (H-24) clarified that the reasons should be consistent with those permitted by regulations for inmates of state correctional facilities.

These provisions were later incorporated into the recodification of Title 34, through amendments to LD 832.