

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

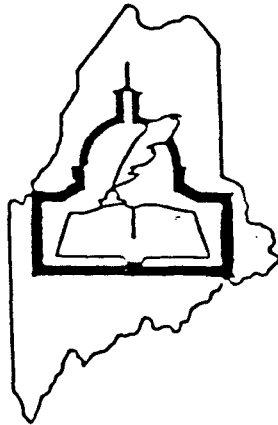
The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

Prepared by:

John Selser, Legislative Assistant
Office of Legislative Assistants
State House, Station 13 Augusta, Maine 04333
(207) 289-1670



STATE LAW LIBRARY
STATE HOUSE

HELEN T. GINDER, DIRECTOR
HAVEN WHITESIDE, ASST. DIRECTOR
GILBERT W. BREWER
DAVID ELLIOTT
MARTHA FREEMAN
CHRISTOS GIANOPOULOS
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR.

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANTS
ROOM 101
STATE HOUSE, STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-2486

SARAH HOOKE
JULIE S. JONES
JOHN B. KNOX
EDWARD POTTER
MARGARET J. REINSCH
LARS RYDELL
JOHN SELSER
ANDREA COLNES, RES. ASST.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

LD: 847 AN ACT TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL GENERAL ASSISTANCE LAW

MANNING
MURRAY
CARROLL

OTP HOUSE Indef. PP
SENATE Indef. PP
GOV

H-71 HA ROLE H S

SUMMARY:

This bill would have authorized grants beginning July 1, 1986, to municipalities to assist them in automating their general assistance application and administrative procedures. Priority was to be given to projects which have the greatest potential to improve administrative efficiency, reduce paperwork, permit coordination of information needed for various federal and state assistance programs and reduce the potential for fraud. The Committee amendment (H-71) modified the grant program to make it more feasible for smaller Maine communities to also participate in the grant awards. It changed the focus of the grants from solely automation oriented to an orientation in any administrative improvements, including automation. It also required some grants to smaller communities and added a reporting requirement and an appropriation.

LD: 848 AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MAINE HEALTH CARE FINANCE COMMISSION'S HOSPITAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PINES
SEAVEY
MACBRIDE
CARROLL
PUBLIC
CH # 339

OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted
SENATE Enacted
GOV SIGNED

H-323 CA MAJ REP H S
H-324 CB MIN REP

SUMMARY:

This bill contained several changes in the Maine Health Care Finance Commission law recommended by the commission's hospital advisory committee. The bill:

1. Modified provisions governing application of restricted gift funds so that hospital capital facilities adjustments are not reduced;
2. Eliminated the requirement that 50% of hospital savings operate to reduce permanently subsequent financial requirements; and
3. Modified provisions governing treatment of certificate of need projects which reduce costs so that a hospital may, with the commission's approval, apply those reductions to other uses.

The committee reported out a majority and minority report. The majority report (H-323), which was enacted, provided the following:

In the case of certain activities, such as a termination of an unnecessary service or a merger, the Maine Health Care Finance Commission is given the discretion, under appropriate circumstances, not to reduce a hospital's financial requirements, if such activities are not subject to review under the Maine Certificate of Need Act. This bill amendment permitted the commission not to reduce financial requirements even when such activities are subject to certificate of need requirements.

It also modified provisions governing application of restricted gift funds. It allowed the restricted gift offset to the annual allowance for facilities and equipment for the 2nd and subsequent payment years to equal the amount offset in the first payment year.

Under the current law, 50% of any savings realized by a hospital during a year are retained by the hospital and 50% of the savings are shared by the consumer. The bill also allowed the hospital to retain 100% of the savings.

The minority report (H-324) was identical to the majority report except for the savings provision. The minority report would have left the current law unamended, passing on 50% of the savings to the payors and consumers.

LD:	849	AN ACT TO REVISE THE MAINE CERTIFICATE OF NEED ACT FOR HOSPITALS				ROLDE MURRAY INGRAHAM BERUBE PUBLIC CH # 338
	OTP-AM	HOUSE Enacted SENATE Enacted GOV SIGNED				
	H-246	CA		H	S	

SUMMARY:

The original bill amended the Maine Certificate of Need Act as follows.

1. It allowed hospitals the option of obtaining waivers on certificate of need reviews for new services when the capital expenditures are less than \$300,000 or the projected annual operating cost for the 3rd year is greater than \$135,000 but less than \$250,000. As a condition of such a waiver, a hospital is not entitled to a positive adjustment to its financial requirements as determined by the Maine Health Care Finance Commission.