MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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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.

The committee amendment (H-389) required that any person employed to transport children in any day care facility, nursery school, kindergarten or elementary or secondary school must submit a certified copy of his driving record showing convictions or adjudications concerning operating under the influence during the preceding 3 years. House amendment "A" (H-421) amended the bill to ensure that anyone currently employed by contract in such a capacity on the effective date of this Act is not automatically fired. The bill still required notification within 10 days of that persons's driving record.

The two House amendments to Committee Amendment "A" were not adopted. House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-391) would have replaced the committee amendment and required that any person employed to transport children in any day care facility, nursery school, kindergarten or elementary or secondary school must submit a certified copy of his driving record showing any operating under the influence convictions during the preceding 3 years. If the record shows a conviction or adjudication of an operating under the influence, he is required to attend the driver education and evaluation program of the Department of Human Services. House Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-392) also sought to replace the committee amendment and would have required that any person employed to transport children in any day care facility, nursery school, kindergarten or elementary or secondary school must submit a copy of his driving record showing any operating under the influence convictions during the preceding 3 years.

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SUMMARY:

This law creates an Office of Child Care Coordination and a Child Care Advisory Committee to provide a focused coordinated effort to address child care issues in Maine.

The responsibilities of the office include:

- Maintaining an inventory of child care information;
- 2. Providing public education on becoming better consumers of child care;

- 3. Evaluating prospective grantees for child care funding grants in consultation with the Division of Purchased and Support Services;
- 4. Evaluating funding methods of child care;
- Coordinating an ongoing review of all child care licensing rules;
- 6. Providing technical assistance to public and private sector employers, school systems and community groups concerning child care, flexible benefits and work schedules;
- 7. Coordinating the development of a training system for child care providers;
- 8. Developing incentives for employer involvement in child care; and
- 9. Promoting cooperative relationships between public health organizations and child care programs.

The purpose of the Child Care Advisory Committee is to monitor the Office of Child Care Coordination and to make recommendations to the commissioner on child care policy. It would be comprised of 11 members with diverse interests and knowledge of child care who are representative of all geographic regions of the State.

The law also adds 3 people to the Department of Human Services Child Care Licensing Unit to adequately monitor Maine's existing and increasing numbers of licensed and registered child care facilities.

The committee amendment (S-170) added a definition of child care and specified the membership of the advisory committee to ensure a broad representation. It also amended the appropriation section of the bill.

The Senate amendment (S-357) eliminated those sections pertaining to a Child Care Advisory Committee. It also removed the appropriation section, as funding for this Act was included in the Part II Budget.

A House amendment (H-338), not introduced, would have included a representative of the Maine Commission for Women on the Child Care Advisory Committee.