

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

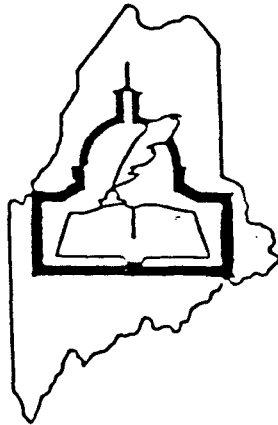
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

Prepared by:

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



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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
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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.

LD: 1523 AN ACT TO CREATE THE BUREAU OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION MARTIN J NELSON GILL DIAMOND G PUBLIC CH #503

OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted SENATE Enacted GOV Signed

H-247 CA H S

SUMMARY:

This Act establishes a Bureau of Children with Special Needs, repeals the existing Office of Children's Services and transfers the principal departmental children's services resources currently administered by the Bureau of Mental Health and Bureau of Mental Retardation to this bureau. The bureau is mandated to develop a system of services responding to need rather than diagnostic labels or categories.

The Act also requires the commissioner, in coordination with other state agencies serving children, to present a biennial comprehensive plan to the Legislature specifically defining the best methods for providing services, describing service gaps and ways to meet these, as well as suggesting procedures for service priorities.

The bill also provides for a 15-member broadly representative Maine Advisory Committee on Children with Special Needs appointed by the Governor and serving without pay with responsibilities to assess programs and plan for meeting current and future needs.

LD: 1616 AN ACT RENAMING REGISTERED DAY CARE PROVIDERS AS HOME BABY-SITTING SERVICE PROVIDERS MANNING BUSTIN CARROLL PUBLIC CH # 358

HOUSE Enacted SENATE Enacted GOV SIGNED

S-189 SA C WEBSTER
 S-202 SB GAUVREAU H S
 S-208 SC WEBSTER
 S-209 SD WEBSTER

SUMMARY:

The new draft (of LD 439) establishes separate nomenclature, "home baby-sitting services" provider, for the registered home day care providers. It authorizes the Department of Human Services to respond to complaints without a search warrant or without requiring permission of the owner. It also authorizes, but does not require, the department to make one annual inspection to ensure compliance with the law.

The new draft also requires each provider of home day care and of home baby-sitting services to give an explanatory brochure to applicants. The Department of Human Services is required to prepare the brochures and distribute them to the providers.

In addition, the new draft rewrites the language concerning the tuberculosis test and water test to be consistent with the current tests now required for licensed day care providers. The statutory tests and procedures are more restrictive than necessary. This change allows the department to utilize the most appropriate testing procedures as advances in medicine and water testing are developed.

Several amendments were proposed in the Senate. Senate Amendment "B" (S-202) was the only one included in the final enacted bill. It added language which clarified the law with regard to the department's authority to investigate complaints by specifying that the department must have reasonable cause to suspect that a violation of the certification requirements has occurred.

Senate Amendment A (S-189) sought to delete the right of entry granted to the department to investigate complaints. Senate Amendment "D" (S-209) sought to require a complainant to give his name and address to the department before it can take action on a complaint. Senate Amendment "C" (S-208) was just a variation of the wording on that issue, corrected by Senate Amendment "D".

LD: 1617 AN ACT TO RENAME REGISTERED DAY CARE
PROVIDERS AS HOME BABY-SITTING SERVICE
PROVIDERS

MANNING
BUSTIN
CARROLL

RPT NOT
ACCEPTED

HOUSE Min. Rep. ND of LD 0439
SENATE
GOV

SUMMARY:

This new draft (of LD 439) was identical to LD 1616 except that it did not provide for an annual inspection by the department to ensure compliance with the law.