

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

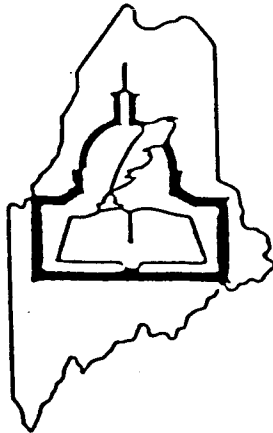
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES
BILL SUMMARY



MAY 1986

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
MAY 1986

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

All Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "CA" if it is a committee amendment. If the amendment was adopted in the House, the letter H appears after the sponsor. If it was adopted in the Senate, the letter S appears.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-AM	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Sponsor: NELSON
Committee Report: OTP-A

H-701 CA H S
H-732 NELSON
S-529 BROWN LD H S

SUMMARY: This bill amends various public health related laws.

1. It provides the Administrative Court with jurisdiction to grant equitable relief in licensing proceedings.

2. It extends the current immunization requirements regarding school students to all public or private post-secondary schools in the State to reduce the risk of a measles outbreak occurring on college, university or vocational school campuses and also reduce the risk of the development of congenital defects in children born to women who are exposed to rubella during pregnancy. The effective date of this section is September 1, 1987 for post-secondary school immunization.

3. It requires all hospital employees born after 1956 to provide evidence that they have been immunized or to provide serologic evidence of immunity against measles and German measles to minimize the risk of transmission of measles and rubella infections between health care providers and patients.

4. It enables the Bureau of Health to provide information to private agencies, such as Red Cross, hospitals or nursing homes, in the event that the public's health is threatened. Currently, the Bureau of Health may only release confidential information to other public health agencies, e.g. at the federal level, such as the Center for Disease Control and at the local level, such as the Portland Health Department.

5. It authorizes restaurant inspectors to enter an establishment without an administrative inspection warrant during operating hours and gives the Administrative Court enjoining and contempt powers to prevent unnecessary delays from occurring when the public's health is threatened.

6. It amends the laws pertaining to administration of funds for families with children with cystic fibrosis. These amendments reflect major changes in inflation and personal income since the original law was passed and should enable the Department of Human Services to utilize these funds more effectively to help children with cystic fibrosis.

The committee amended the bill (H-701) to make the following changes:

1. Corrects the equitable jurisdiction section of the bill to limit the case of equitable relief to only those proceedings filed by an agency in the Department of the Attorney General. This limited authority is consistent with the intent of the original bill.

2. Extends the measles immunization requirement in the original legislative document to employees of health facilities which are identified by department rule as well as to hospital employees. In addition, it defines employees to avoid any confusion as to who must be immunized and provides an exemption to that requirement for medical or religious reasons.

3. Deletes language which requires a complaint from the court prior to an inspection for facilities which the Department believes are being operated without a license.

4. Deletes the amendment to the cystic fibrosis fund which contains the appropriation. The intent of the original bill was to amend the law pertaining to the administration of the cystic fibrosis fund. This amendment retains the administrative changes and deletes the appropriation section of that law.

H-732 was introduced in the House to amend that part of the amendment (H-701) which deleted the requirement for a complaint for facilities which were being operated without a license. This amendment requires approval of the owner or a search warrant when the department seeks entry and inspection in cases when it is believed a license is required, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, chapter 562, but has not been obtained. This amendment was printed too late for introduction in the House. An identical Senate amendment (S-529) was prepared and adopted.

LD AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A COMMISSION TO EXAMINE THE P&SL 1985
2330 AVAILABILITY, QUALITY AND DELIVERY OF SERVICES c. 112
 PROVIDED TO CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Sponsor: DIAMOND J, Gill, Martin J, Nelson
Committee Report: Engrossed without reference to committee

H-670 HA
H-692 HB H S
S-474 SA
S-515 PEARSON H S

SUMMARY: This bill was engrossed without reference, but is referenced here since the subject matter relates to the Human Resources Committee.