

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

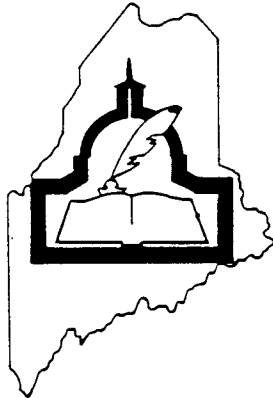
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
BUSINESS LEGISLATION
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1987

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. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted 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 "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

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

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

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-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Sponsor: KILKELLY, Carroll, Kimball, Clark, N.
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: Applicants for a chiropractic license must have a diploma from a legally chartered chiropractic college having the power to confer degrees in chiropractics. If an applicant matriculated after Jan. 1, 1984 his diploma must show that it was granted by a chiropractic college accredited by a chiropractic educational accrediting agency approved by the U.S. Dept. of Education or, in the event as such agency doesn't exist, approved by the board.

This bill removes the requirement that the college be approved by a chiropractic educational accrediting agency and merely requires its approval by any approved educational accrediting agency.

Sponsor: Reported Pursuant to M.R.S.A., Title 3, Section 501
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 504

SUMMARY: This bill was submitted under the statutory authority of the Committee on Audit and Program Review.

By statute licenses of Social Workers expire on Dec. 31st every other year and a renewal is payable Jan. 1st. The Board of Social Worker Registration currently has the licenses expire on the even number years. By statute renewal fees may not exceed \$50. Renewals due in January 1985 were charged at the rate of \$40 for all classifications except a new classification called licensed clinical social worker which were charged \$65, in conflict with statute. Even though renewals were due Jan. 1st of 1987, renewal notices were not sent out because of a recommendation by Audit and Program Review that this year's fees must be raised in order to balance the budget for this year. It is this increase that is the purpose of this bill. It seeks approval to set fees as high as \$125 for all of the current three categories of Social Workers. In the case of the two lower categories this would make the renewal fee ceiling considerably higher than the original examination and license fee ceiling.

The current biennial fee situation for licensed social workers is as follows:

	<u>Initial</u>		<u>Renewal</u>	
	Actual Fee	Statutory-Not to exceed	Actual Fee	Statutory-Not to exceed
Social Worker	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$40	\$50
Master Social Worker	75	75	40	50
Clinical Social Worker	125	125	65	50

Fee renewals are due Jan. 1 of the odd number years.

Prior to this fiscal year, social workers employed in hospitals, nursing homes or by the State were not required to be licensed. This exemption was removed a year ago and, in conjunction with this removal, for 1 year all persons who had any experience as a social worker prior to that time could receive a license without meeting the usual qualifications. This has resulted an increase in licensed social workers from 770 to 1200 in the last year.

This situation has been a major factor in the substantial increase in board expenses in the last 2 years which is documented below.

	<u>FY 88 Projection</u>	<u>Change verses 1986</u>	
		<u>\$'s</u>	<u>%</u>
Clerical and Legal Services	\$18,000	\$3,500	+4%
General Operating Expenses	16,000	8,250	+06
Departmental Costs	3,300	1,700	+05

The original bill raised the statutory maximum for renewal fees from \$50 to \$125 regardless of category and made no changes in the initial fee. This new draft raises the statutory maximum on initial fees by category and provides that renewal fees may not exceed these levels. The statutory limitations are \$70, \$110 and \$175 depending on the category of social worker. Testimony has indicated that initially fees will be left at their current levels for the initial fee and raised to that level for renewals.