

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
113TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
HUMAN RESOURCES

MAY 1988

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**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST & SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
MAY 1988**

*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 for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are indicated as follows::*

<b>OTP</b>	<b>Ought to Pass</b>
<b>OTP-ND</b>	<b>Ought to Pass in New Draft</b>
<b>OTP-ND-NT</b>	<b>Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title</b>
<b>OTP-A</b>	<b>Ought to Pass as Amended</b>
<b>ONTP</b>	<b>Ought Not to Pass</b>
<b>LVWD</b>	<b>Leave to Withdraw</b>
<b>INDEF PP</b>	<b>Indefinitely Postponed</b>

*Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Secretaries: Charlene Brann, Janet Jean, Earl Knox, Valarie Parlin; Research Assistant Hartley Palleschi. Finally, Secretary Lorette Knox, Legal Assistant Carolyn Chick, and Research Assistant Robert Dunn had special responsibilities in the preparation of the overall document.*

*Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.*

**LD 958** An Act to Contain the Cost of, and to Assure the Availability and Quality of, Hospital Care to the People of this State **LV/WD**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
PRAY	LV/WD		
PERKINS			
FOSTER			
ROLDE			

**SUMMARY**

This bill sought to repeal the Maine Health Care Finance Commission with respect to hospitals and replace it with a prospective payment system utilizing diagnostic related groups for the state Medicaid program only. In addition it would have created a health care data and information system and established a fund to assist hospitals in financial difficulty. The committee ultimately established a blue ribbon commission in LD 290 to study the regulation of health care. The bill was held over until the 2nd Regular Session and eventually withdrawn.

**LD 1462** An Act to Enhance the Quality of Care in Long-term Care Facilities through Consultation, Education and Intermediate Sanctions **PUBLIC 774**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
LUDWIG	OTP-AM	MAJ	S-478 MAJ REP
BOTT	OTP-AM	MIN	
BERUBE			
REED			

**SUMMARY**

This bill sought to provide an intermediate level of sanctions for violations of the state licensing regulations for long-term care facilities. The bill was held over from the 1st Regular Session. The bill was reported out in the 2nd Regular Session.

The Majority Report provided intermediate sanctions (such as fines) for violations. The income from such fines would be placed in a special revenue account to be used if needed and available when a receiver is appointed under authority of the Maine Revised Statutes or for other costs which are associated with the protection of health and property of residents of long-term care facilities which are fined or sanctioned pursuant to this chapter. In addition to authorizing intermediate sanctions, the Majority and Minority Amendment also included authorization for the development of incentive programs that would reward long-term care facilities that provide the highest quality care to their residents.

The Minority Report also provided intermediate sanctions. The procedure in the minority report established remedial action priorities. The department would first apply a directed plan of correction. In this case, the Department of Human Services directs the facility to make the necessary corrections within a specified period of time. If the facility fails to make the

corrections required by the department, the department may impose a penalty in the form of fines. A maximum fine of \$5,000 may be imposed for each statement of deficiency issued to a skilled nursing or intermediate care facility. A maximum fine of \$3,000 may be imposed for each statement of deficiency issued to a boarding facility. The next action that could be pursued is a prohibition against new admissions to a facility in violation of licensing rules.

LD 1603 An Act to Require Principles of Reimbursement for Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded to Include Provisions for Covering Increases in Insurance Premiums  
REFERRED BACK TO COMMITTEE IN 1ST REG SESSION

SPONSOR(S)                      COMMITTEE REPORT                      AMENDMENTS ADOPTED  
BUSTIN  
TAYLOR  
BOUTILIER  
THISTLE

SUMMARY  
New Draft of LD 491. The original bill, introduced in the 1st Regular Session, required the Department of Human Services to include adjustments for insurance premiums in the principles of reimbursement for group and nursing homes providing residential care for mentally retarded citizens. The new draft added boarding care facilities and included an appropriation and a fiscal note. The new draft was referred back to the committee and the bill, LD 491, was held over. LD 491 was indefinitely postponed in the 2nd Regular Session.

LD 1705 An Act to Revise the General Assistance Laws (Reported Pursuant to Private and Special Law, Chaps. 79 and 131 of 1985) PUBLIC 833

SPONSOR(S)                      COMMITTEE REPORT                      AMENDMENTS ADOPTED  
COMMISSION SPONSORED              LV/WD                      H-749 MANNING

SUMMARY  
This bill, held over from the 1st Regular Session, represents the legislation proposed by the Majority Report of the Special Select Commission on the Administration and Financing of General Assistance.

PART A establishes a comprehensive information and referral service for social services.

PART B expands the Welfare, Employment, Education and Training Program (WEET) to increase the job training assistance to AFDC recipients.

PART C amends the residency requirements in regard to determining which municipality is responsible for General Assistance applicants.