

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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Office of Policy & Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Sta. 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 289-1670

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STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

**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::

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

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 Laurette 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.

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

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

PART C prohibits hospital expenses from being billed to a municipality's General Assistance Program.

PART D prohibits general assistance disbursements in the form of cash.

PART E provides for additional reimbursement by the State to the municipalities for expenses incurred through the General Assistance Program. Each municipality would choose one of the following options for additional reimbursement:

- a. State funding of 50% of all municipal General Assistance expenditures below the current threshold. (Continue reimbursement at 90% above that obligation threshold); or
- b. State reimbursement for the reasonable administrative costs of the General Assistance Program, calculated as 10% of the General Assistance cost for that municipality.

During the 1st Regular Session, Parts B and C were enacted in other legislation. The bill was eventually withdrawn.

LD	An Act to Add the Commissioner of Public Safety to the 1972 Alcohol and Drug Abuse Planning Committee	PUBLIC 584
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<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u> <u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
STROUT D GOULD R R ANTHONY ROTONDI	OTP	

SUMMARY

This bill makes the Commissioner of Public Safety a member of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Planning Committee.

LD	An Act to Exempt from Labeling Requirements Goods Produced 1982 Under Certification issued by the United States Department of Justice Pursuant to the Prison Industries Enhancement Act	PUBLIC 589
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<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u> <u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
TAYLOR GILL ANTHONY MANNING	OTP	

SUMMARY

The Committee heard testimony that work release programs are not available to

persons with the more restricted security classifications and long-term sentences; thus, they are excluded from meaningful employment and the earning of prevailing wages, which tends to have a negative effect upon rehabilitation. Federal legislation now exists which provides for 20 correctional programs throughout the country to enter into working agreements with local industries to provide for the manufacture and assembly of goods to be shipped in interstate commerce. However, these companies do not wish to have their products which may be only manufactured in part within a correctional facility labeled as manufactured by prisoner labor.

This bill exempts from labeling requirements only those goods manufactured under the Federal Certification Program. The Department of Corrections would thus be able to more readily enter into such agreements with major manufacturers and provide purposeful work for the prisoners.

LD	An Act Relating to the Powers of the Maine Youth Center 1988 Employees	PUBLIC 585 EMERGENCY
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<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
GILL STROUT B ANTHONY MANNING	OTP-AM	S-314

SUMMARY

This bill gives Maine Youth Center employees legal powers to go after youths absent without leave from the Center. This bill provides the same powers for Center employees as those available to employees of other Department of Corrections institutions. The amendment (S-314) added an emergency preamble and emergency clause.

LD	An Act to Enforce 3rd-Party Liability Reimbursement for 2022 Medicaid Recipients as Required by Title XIX of the Social Security Act	PUBLIC 621
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<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
GILL TAYLOR GAUVREAU FARNUM	OTP-AM	S-325

SUMMARY

This bill mandates that 3rd-party claims involving Medicaid recipients be reported to the Department of Human Services, enhancing the department's recovery efforts. Both federal and state authorities, the United States Social Security Act, Title XIX, section 1902(a) (25), 42 Code of Federal Regulations 433.135-139, and the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 14, establish Medicaid as a payor of last resort and require reimbursement where 3rd-party resources become available to a Medicaid recipient. In those cases where the Medicaid program already has paid these claims, the department, under federal and state law, must recover this money.