

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
114TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
HUMAN RESOURCES

JULY 1989

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Staff: Julie S. Jones, Principal Analyst  
Annika Lane, Legislative Analyst

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

MARTHA E. FREEMAN, DIRECTOR  
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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

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
AUGUST 1989

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 for 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 abbreviated 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 Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

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

project will be developed between member nursing homes of the Maine Health Care Association and the Central Maine Vocational-Technical Institute.

See also LDs 1268, 1324 and 1591.

LD 920 An Act to Implement Recommendations Proposed by the Blue Ribbon Commission on the Regulation of Health Care Expenditures (Reported Pursuant to Public Laws of 1987, Chapter 440, section 5) INDEF PP

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
OTP-AM S-326

SUMMARY

This bill contains the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Regulation of Health Care Expenditures. The original bill makes the following major changes;

- + It reduces the scope of projects subject to certificate of need review.
+ It changes the hospital regulatory body from a part time five member commission to a three member full time commission.
+ It provides more flexibility in the hospital rate setting process to permit increased competition and to reward hospitals which are efficient.
+ It establishes a \$30,000,000 fund to be used to compensate hospitals for losses resulting from governmental shortfalls and charity care.

This bill was amended in Committee and ultimately incorporated into LD 1322. (See summary of LD 1322 under Banking and Insurance Committee, above.) The provisions resulting from LD 920 which were incorporated into LD 1322 did not change the structure of the Maine Health Care Finance Commission but did make changes in the regulatory system to provide more flexibility and a greater role for competition. The Commission will study appropriate methods of regulation of outpatient services and a study commission is established to study health planning and certificate of need and the advisability of deregulating ambulatory health services. The enacted version provides approximately \$5,000,000 for uncompensated care.

LD 940 An Act to Provide Funds for the Establishment of the Community Service Center for the Deaf and Hearing-Impaired INDEF PP

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
KETOVER OTP-AM H-280
CLARK N
HANDY
ANTHONY

SUMMARY

This bill provides funds to continue a community service center for the deaf and hearing-impaired in Maine to be matched by federal funds and other funding sources, as available. It would provide for a

walk-in facility to serve the needs of 60,000 hearing-impaired citizens and to coordinate with existing community agencies for access to community services for the special population.

**LD 943      An Act to Provide Needed Services Identified by the Task Force on Incapacitated and Dependent Adults, and Required by the United States Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987      CARRY OVER**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
PINES RIDLEY CLARK M	OTP-AM	H-199

SUMMARY

The original bill appropriates funds to provide one adult protective services caseworker in each of Regions I, IV and V, and a supervisor in Region III. The bill also appropriates funds to place 3 mental health geriatric resource persons in unserved areas, and assessment and treatment funds to comply with the United States Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987. This bill also funds 2 6-bed long-term psychiatric group residences to deinstitutionalize public wards who could safely live outside of Augusta Mental Health Institute and Bangor Mental Health Institute.

Committee Amendment "A" changes the appropriation section of the bill to reflect the funds needed by each of the named departments according to the fiscal note on the bill. It also changes the community mental health services section to provide funds for 2 geriatric mental health resource persons rather than 3, and directs the remaining funds to be used for treatment services in the affected regions. It also corrects a technical error.

This bill was carried over by the Appropriations Committee.

**LD 944      An Act to Increase Protection for Clients of the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation      PUBLIC 190 EMERGENCY**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
HEPBURN CLARK M GILL GAUVREAU	OTP-AM	H-148

SUMMARY

This bill permits disclosure to the Division of Adult Services of the Department of Human Services information relating to Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation clients pursuant to an agreement between the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

Committee amendment "A" (H-148) adds an emergency preamble and a fiscal note to the bill.