

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
HUMAN RESOURCES**

AUGUST 1991

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1991**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H - 584 or S - 222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
P&S XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
RESOLVE XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
CON RES XXX	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
EMERGENCY	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
CARRIED OVER	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
ONTP	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
LVWD	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
INDEF PP	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
VETO SUSTAINED	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
UNSIGNED	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	<i>Action incomplete when 1st session ended</i>

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

LD 656 An Act to Reduce Duplication at the Department of Human Services

UNSIGNED

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PRAY	OTP-AM	S-103
BUSTIN		S-430 BRANNIGAN
MANNING		
DAGGETT		

SUMMARY

The bill requires the Commissioner of the Department of Human Services to organize the Department's income maintenance programs in a manner that allows citizens to apply for all income maintenance programs simultaneously. It requires caseworkers to be trained to determine eligibility in all those programs.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-103) adds a provision to the bill requiring the Department to report to the Legislature by January 1, 1992 regarding its plans and needs for implementation of the bill. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-430) clarifies that income maintenance workers must be "able," as opposed to "trained," to determine eligibility in several programs.

The bill was enacted as amended but has not been signed by the Governor. Final resolution of the bill has yet to be determined.

LD 668 Resolve, to Direct the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to Develop a Plan to Provide Appropriate Services for Severely Mentally Ill Persons Who Are Living in Homeless Shelters

**RESOLVE 6
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
GEAN	OTP-AM	H-71
CONLEY		
MANNING		
LEBOWITZ		

SUMMARY

This resolve requires the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to develop a plan to provide appropriate services to meet the needs of people who are both homeless and mentally ill.

Committee amendment A (H-71) specifies that the department must include consumers and service providers in the preparation of the plan and adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 703 An Act Regarding Public Exposure to Nonionizing Radiation

ONTP-MIN REP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
HEESCHEN	OTP-AM MAJ	
MANNING	ONTP MIN	
ADAMS		
CONLEY		

SUMMARY

The bill requires that warning labels be placed on all pad-mounted electrical transformers and substations that are owned or maintained by electric utilities. It also requires the Department of Human

Services to conduct a pilot survey to assess nonionizing radiation in and around elementary schools.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-351) was reported by a majority of the committee. It removes the original bill's requirement that warning labels be placed on power transformers and substations. It adds a requirement that the Department of Human Services implement an education campaign regarding electromagnetic fields and clarifies the scope of the pilot survey contained in the bill. It also replaces the appropriation section with an allocation section and requires that the provisions of the original bill be funded through an assessment on electric utilities. The amendment also adds a fiscal note.

LD 706 Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
NORTON CARPENTER ADAMS TUPPER	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

This resolve creates the Commission to Study Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome to address immediate and long-term needs of people with CFIDS.

LD 728 An Act Pertaining to the Licensing of Boarding Care Facilities PUBLIC 69

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
GILL CLARK M BERUBE	OTP	

SUMMARY

This bill incorporates several amendments to the requirements for licensing adult boarding care facilities. It eliminates language that permitted the Department of Human Services to treat the personal funds of residents with mental retardation differently when those persons have not been adjudicated incompetent. It extends the right to form a resident council to all residents in boarding homes, regardless of the number of beds. It allows the Department of Human Services to convert a conditional license, which in some cases may have been issued for less than one year, to a full license, provided the period covered by both licenses combined does not exceed one year. Presently, a conditional license covers any period of time up to one year, and a subsequent full license must be issued for a full year. This procedure unnecessarily disrupts the annual survey schedules of the facilities.

LD 738 An Act to Reestablish the Board of Visitors of State Institutions, except for the Augusta Mental Health Institute and the Bangor Mental Health Institute PUBLIC 70

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
GILL BALDACCI	OTP-AM	S-38

SUMMARY

This bill reenacts the statute concerning boards of visitors that was repealed by legislation creating