

# 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:

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

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	LV/WD	
CARPENTER		
ADAMS		
TUPPER		

**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	OTP	
CLARK M		
BERUBE		

**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	OTP-AM	S-38
BALDACCI		

**SUMMARY**

This bill reenacts the statute concerning boards of visitors that was repealed by legislation creating

the Maine Commission of Mental Health. The commission's oversight duties permitted the boards of the mental health institutes to be disbanded. However, it was not the intent to remove the boards of visitors of other institutions. This bill reestablishes the boards of visitors, except for the Augusta Mental Health Institute and the Bangor Mental Health Institute.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-38) makes technical changes to clarify the intent of the bill and adds a fiscal note.

**LD 741      An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Bath Children's Home      PUBLIC 567**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
CAHILL P GILL	OTP-AM	S-37

**SUMMARY**

This bill makes the director of the Bath Children's Home an appointed position that serves at the pleasure of the Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, making it consistent with the chief administrative officer positions of the Department's other residential facilities.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-37) adds a "grandfathering" provision, allowing the current director of the Bath Children's Home to remain a classified employee. The amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 743      An Act Regarding Continuing Education for Administrators of Boarding Homes      LV/WD**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
CARROLL D MANNING	LV/WD	

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires administrators of boarding homes to obtain 12 hours of relevant training each year. It makes the training a condition of licensure as of January 1, 1992 for boarding homes with more than 6 residents and as of January 1, 1994 for all boarding homes. The Department of Human Services is required to reimburse a percentage of the training costs based upon the percentage of state-supported residents in each home.

**LD 744      An Act to Enable Retail Stores to Bottle and Sell Water on the Premises      PUBLIC 113**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
SMALL	OTP-AM	H-119

**SUMMARY**

Public water systems are regulated by the Department of Human Services, and bottling regulations require space and equipment that make bottling and selling water extremely difficult for small retail stores. This bill excludes retail stores from the definition of "public water system" if the retail stores purify and bottle water from an existing "public water system," such as a municipal water supply, and sell it on the premises. Such stores are thereby placed outside the jurisdiction of "public water system" regulations.