

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

**STATE OF MAINE  
115TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

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

**AUGUST 1991**

***Staff:***

*Paul J. Saucier, Legislative Analyst  
Julie S. Jones, Principal Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101, State House Station 13  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 289-1670*

***MEMBERS:***

*\*Sen. Gerard P. Conley, Jr.  
Sen. Stephen M. Bost  
Sen. Barbara A. Gill*

*\*Rep. Peter J. Manning  
Rep. Margaret Pruitt Clark  
Rep. Donald H. Gean  
Rep. Tracy R. Goodridge  
Rep. Stephen P. Simonds  
Rep. Sharon A. Treat  
Rep. Jason D. Wentworth  
Rep. Peggy A. Pendleton  
Rep. Susan D. Duplessis  
Rep. Joan M. Pendexter*

*\*Denotes Chair*

MARTHA E. FREEMAN, DIRECTOR  
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR., PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
ULIE S. JONES, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
DAVID C. ELLIOTT, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
RON CLARK  
RYAN M. DYTTER  
BRO FLATEBO  
DEBORAH C. FRIEDMAN  
MICHAEL D. HIGGINS  
KANE ORBETON



KAREN L. HRUBY  
JILL IPPOLITI  
JOHN B. KNOX  
PATRICK NORTON  
MARGARET J. REINSCH  
PAUL J. SAUCIER  
HAVEN WHITESIDE  
MILA M. DWELLEY, RES. ASST.  
ROY W. LENARDSON, RES. ASST.  
BRET A. PRESTON, RES. ASST.

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 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.

**LD 890**

**An Act to Require the Department of Human Services to Have a Regular Presence in Every County of the State**

**CARRIED OVER**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
KILKELLY		
MANNING		
HOLLOWAY		
SPEAR		

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires that an office or itinerant worker from the Department of Human Services be available in each county on a regular biweekly basis to assist people applying for benefits or seeking information on services offered by the department.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session.

**LD 892**

**An Act to Provide Funds for the Mid-State United Cerebral Palsy Center**

**LV/WD**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
DAGGETT	LV/WD	
BUSTIN		
ST. ONGE		
CHONKO		

**SUMMARY**

This bill provides funds to the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation for the support of the Mid-State United Cerebral Palsy Center.

**LD 895**

**An Act Concerning Availability of Income Between Spouses in the Determination of Medicaid Eligibility for Care at the Nursing Home Level**

**LV/WD**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
DAGGETT	LV/WD	
TITCOMB		
MARTIN J		
MANNING		

**SUMMARY**

This bill amends Medicaid eligibility provisions by requiring that no more than 1/2 of a couple's income or the income of the applicant spouse, whichever is less, be considered available to an institutionalized spouse. The bill also requires that the spousal impoverishment provisions of the Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988 be applied to individuals receiving home-based care, allowing spouses to retain more personal income.