

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 1734**An Act to Increase Access to Federal Health Care Benefits****P & S 59**

SPONSOR(S)
GAUVREAU
CONLEY
PARADIS P

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-243

SUMMARY

This bill provides funds to Legal Services for the Elderly, Inc. and Pine Tree Legal Assistance, Inc. to assist Maine residents to become eligible for federal disability benefits. Some of the funds are deappropriated from the State accounts for General Assistance and Aid to Families with Dependent Children, since enhanced access to federal disability benefits reduces the need for those programs.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-243) replaces the original bill. Rather than deappropriating funds for the General Assistance and Aid to Families with Dependent Children programs, the Department of Human Services is authorized to use a limited amount of funds from those programs to provide legal services to assist recipients of those programs to become qualified to receive federal disability benefits. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1763**An Act to Provide Improved Services for People with Autism****ONTP**

SPONSOR(S)
KILKELLY
GOODRIDGE
CONLEY
PARADIS J

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill establishes the Maine Committee on Autism to serve in an advisory capacity to the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation in order to plan for the more effective delivery of services to people with autism and their families, increase the independence and productivity of people with autism and aid their integration into the community.

LD 1793**An Act to Ensure Notification of Guardians Ad Litem of Changes in Foster Care Placement of Children****PUBLIC 356**

SPONSOR(S)
MORRISON
GRAY

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-402

SUMMARY

This bill instructs the Department of Human Services to inform the guardian ad litem of a child in foster care prior to changing the placement of that child.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-402) replaces the original bill. It achieves the same end as the original bill by amending existing law rather than creating a new section. It also adds a fiscal note to the bill.