

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
HUMAN RESOURCES

JULY 1993

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

JULY 1993

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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:

<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<i>ENACTMENT FAILED</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</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.

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

4693NRG

Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources

LD 5 **An Act Concerning Private Agencies That Have Contracts
with the Department of Human Services** ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
VOSE ONTP

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Human Services to adopt rules requiring social service agencies that do business with the department to have toll-free telephone systems so that applicants and recipients have free telephone access to the agencies.

LD 56 **An Act to Establish a Psychiatric Component for Community
Health and Counseling Services in Washington County** ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
VOSE ONTP

SUMMARY

This bill appropriates funds to the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation for Community Health and Counseling Services, Inc. to fund a full-time psychiatrist in Washington County.

LD 87 **An Act to Provide Mental Health Services to the Elderly** ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
SIMONDS ONTP

SUMMARY

This bill provides funding to expand statewide the geriatric mental health resource program, which provides home-based mental health services to older people. It also establishes statewide psychogeriatric teams to provide direct service, consultation and training to nursing home residents and staff.

LD 119 **An Act Regarding Medicaid Reimbursement for Counseling
Services** PUBLIC 393

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
MARTIN J OTP-AM H-513

SUMMARY

Currently, licensed master social workers and licensed social workers are eligible for Medicaid reimbursement for certain counseling services while licensed clinical professional counselors and licensed professional counselors are not. This bill extends Medicaid reimbursement of counseling to licensed clinical professional counselors and licensed professional counselors to the same extent that it exists for licensed master social workers and licensed social workers.

Amendment H-513 modifies the original bill. Rather than lumping several counseling categories into one, it treats licensed clinical social workers and licensed clinical professional counselors as one group for

the purposes of Medicaid reimbursement, and licensed master social workers and licensed professional counselors as one group for the purposes of Medicaid reimbursement. The amendment also requires the Board of Counseling Professionals Licensure and the State Board of Social Worker Licensure to study whether Medicaid reimbursement should be extended to licensed marriage and family therapists and licensed pastoral counselors and to report their findings to the Legislature and the Executive Director of the Legislative Council by January 1, 1994. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 137 An Act Requiring Substance Abuse Treatment Programs to ONTP
Provide Nutrition Counseling

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TOWNSEND G	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Office of Substance Abuse to ensure that all drug and alcohol treatment programs offer nutrition counseling. The bill also prohibits the Office of Substance Abuse from funding any program that does not offer nutrition counseling.

LD 145 An Act to Permit Professional Review Committees to Work PUBLIC 39
with Impaired Physician Assistants

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
AULT HANLEY	OTP-AM	H-33

SUMMARY

The Board of Registration in Medicine currently authorizes, through protocols, the operation of an impaired physician committee. The committee is authorized to deal with physicians only. This bill allows the committee to deal with physician assistants as well as physicians.

Amendment H-33 makes a technical amendment for statutory consistency.

LD 150 An Act to Increase the Effectiveness of Child Support PUBLIC 94
Enforcement

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
FAIRCLOTH	OTP-AM	H-144

SUMMARY

This bill requires parents to disclose their social security numbers when a birth certificate is prepared for their child.

Amendment H-144 adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 175 An Act Regarding Low-cost Drugs for the Elderly ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
BERUBE	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill adds psychotropic drugs to the list of drugs covered under the elderly low-cost drug program.