

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
HUMAN RESOURCES

MAY 1994

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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**MAY 1994**

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, 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*

*P&S XXX*

*RESOLVE XXX*

*CON RES XXX*

*EMERGENCY*

*ONTP*

*INDEF PP*

*FAILED ENACTMENT*

*FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT*

*FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*

*DIED BETWEEN BODIES*

*CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*

*VETO SUSTAINED*

*UNSIGNED*

*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*

*Chapter # of enacted Public Law*

*Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*

*Chapter # of enacted Resolve*

*Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses*

*Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days*

*Ought Not to Pass report accepted*

*Bill Indefinitely Postponed*

*Bill failed to get majority vote*

*Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote*

*Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote*

*House & Senate disagree; bill died*

*Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died*

*Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto*

*Not signed by Governor within 10 days*

*Action incomplete when session ended; bill died*

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If you have any suggestions or comments on the summaries, please let us know.

5581LHS

## Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources

**LD 562**      **An Act to Reestablish the Maine Committee on Aging**      ONTP

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
VOSE TREAT	ONTP	

### **SUMMARY**

This bill reestablishes the Maine Committee on Aging, which was repealed by Public Law 1991, chapter 780.

**LD 690**      **An Act Related to Special Education Costs**      ONTP

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
BRANNIGAN PARADIS J	ONTP	

### **SUMMARY**

Under the "Ribicoff option," some children may be eligible for Medicaid services when they are living away from home, such as at a residential treatment center. The State's Medicaid program recently exercised the Ribicoff option. This bill directs the Department of Human Services to work with the Department of Education to identify and implement expanded Ribicoff applications.

**LD 755**      **An Act to Improve Access to Pharmaceuticals**      PUBLIC 716

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
MARTIN J	OTP-AM      MAJ OTP-AM      MIN	H-986

### **SUMMARY**

The federal Veterans Health Care Act of 1992 qualifies rural health centers to receive discounts from manufacturers on pharmaceuticals purchased for their patients. This bill waives the Maine Pharmacy Act to ensure that its provisions do not prohibit or impede the State's rural health centers from taking full advantage of the federally authorized discounts.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT A (H-986) is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources. It does three things, as follows.

Rather than a complete waiver, the amendment makes specific amendments to the Maine Pharmacy Act to clarify that rural health centers may receive the discounts authorized under the federal Veterans Health Care Act of 1992.

The amendment also prohibits a drug manufacturer from engaging in price discrimination based on the class of trade of the purchaser. Manufacturers are required to offer their so-called "best price" to all classes. However, in determining which price is the "best price," prices authorized by federal law and prices offered to State agencies, non-profit agencies, and hospitals are exempt.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.