

# 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&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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 &amp; 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.

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**SPONSOR(S)**  
FOSS  
HARRIMAN**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-564**SUMMARY**

This bill amends ASPIRE, the State's training and education program for Aid to Families with Dependent Children recipients, as follows.

1. It increases the sliding fee scale that recipients pay for transitional support services.
2. It eliminates the requirement that the program provide the same level of services as that available on October 1, 1989, thereby giving the Department of Human Services more flexibility in managing the program;
3. It allows the Department of Human Services to reallocate to the ASPIRE program any general funds that represent AFDC cost savings due to an ASPIRE participant obtaining employment.
4. It prohibits the ASPIRE program from making any payments for post-secondary tuition, books and fees.

Amendment H-564 changes the original bill as follows.

1. A provision is added that requires those who enter into contracts with the State to list job openings with the ASPIRE Program.
2. A provision is added to ensure that ASPIRE Program participants are considered for state job openings if they achieve qualifying scores.
3. Several changes are made to correct internal inconsistencies in the ASPIRE Program statutes, to strike redundant or outdated language and to make state law consistent with federal law.
4. The original bill repealed a section requiring ASPIRE registrants to be served in the order that they are oriented to the program. That section of law is retained, but it is amended to allow the Department of Human Services to expend up to 20% of program funds to serve people out of order and to serve a person out of order if non-ASPIRE Program benefits available to that person are equal to or greater than ASPIRE Program benefits.
5. It changes the proposed participant contribution for transitional child care. For families up to 133% of the federal poverty level, a \$1 per child per week contribution is required. Families over 133% contribute 3% of their household income.
6. The original bill's "social contract" is renamed "mutual agreement" and that provision is amended to ensure that it is compatible with federal law.
7. The amendment strikes the provision that would have allowed the Department of Human Services to transfer Aid to Families with Dependent Children savings to the ASPIRE Program.
8. A provision is added requiring the department to inform Aid to Families with Dependent Children recipients about the federal Earned Income Tax Credit.
9. The amendment requires that case management be provided to ASPIRE Program participants.

10. The exemption in current law for people of advanced age is retained, consistent with federal law.
11. The original bill prohibits ASPIRE funding for tuition for postsecondary education. The amendment allows very limited exceptions to the prohibition that are estimated to result in 1% to 3% of ASPIRE Program participants receiving postsecondary tuition assistance from the ASPIRE Program.
12. The amendment requires the department to offer post-eligibility case management to people who have completed the ASPIRE-JOBS Program, establishes an information pilot project in one region to ensure that participants receive accurate information regarding how employment affects their benefits, requires the department to work with local housing authorities to expand family self-sufficiency projects and requires the department to examine ways to maximize federal funds in the ASPIRE-JOBS Program.

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