

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

Staff:

Paul J. Saucier, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Station 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

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DARLENE A. SHORES LYNCH, RESEARCHER
CARRIE C. McFADDEN, RESEARCHER

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL: (207) 287-1670
FAX (207) 287-1275

**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

LD 1574

An Act to Ensure Appropriate Resource and Referral Services for Families Needing Child Care

**PUBLIC 490
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)
PARADIS J

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-396

SUMMARY

This bill extends the statutory requirement for the child care resource development centers under the jurisdiction of the Department of Human Services from June 30, 1994 to June 30, 1995.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT A (S-396) adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1577

An Act Regarding the Custody of Remains of Deceased Persons

PUBLIC 609

SPONSOR(S)
CONLEY

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-920 TREAT
S-417

SUMMARY

This bill establishes as a general rule that custody and control of the body of a dead person belongs to the spouse of the deceased. If at the time of death, however, the deceased and the surviving spouse are living separate and apart, custody and control go to the next of kin or some other appropriate party. This bill does not alter rights and obligations of parties under the probate laws.

Committee Amendment A (S-417) clarifies and expands the original bill. The original bill addressed custody and control of dead bodies only as it relates to a spouse. The amendment clarifies that provision from the original bill by defining "estranged" and "next of kin." The amendment goes beyond the original bill by establishing a hierarchy among relatives that is used to determine who has custody and control of dead bodies generally. The amendment does not affect custody and control in cases in which no relative or other person assumes responsibility for the body.

HOUSE AMENDMENT B (H-920) provides that any person claiming a close personal relationship to a deceased person for purposes of gaining custody of the body must show evidence to the court of that relationship. The amendment also prohibits an employee of the deceased from gaining custody.

LD 1585

An Act to Clarify Certain Provisions of Maine's Hospital Payment System

PUBLIC 587

SPONSOR(S)
TREAT

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-834

SUMMARY

This bill deletes the lower and upper limits of the variable adjustment factor used by the Maine Health Care Finance Commission in setting the revenue limits of hospitals. The bill also clarifies that prompt payment differentials do not qualify for revenue deductions in the calculation of revenue limits for individual hospitals determined by the Maine Health Care Finance Commission.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT A (H-834) retains the lower and upper limits of the variable adjustment factor but decreases the lower limit from 0.5% to 0.38%. The amendment also makes a technical cross-reference correction and conforms existing law to current drafting standards.