

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
HUMAN RESOURCES

AUGUST 1995

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Sen. John W. Benoit  
Sen. Rochelle M. Pingree*

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

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION BEFORE  
THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES**

**AUGUST 1995**

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing 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 publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, is helpful in determining to which committee any particular bill was referred.

In this document, 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 categories of final action are abbreviated as follows:

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

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If more detailed information is needed on a bill, contact the committee analyst.

5581LHS

**SUMMARY**

This bill exempts certain small businesses from the fees collected by the Department of Human Services for deposit into the Public Drinking Water Fund.

This bill was carried over to the 2nd Regular Session.

**LD 140      Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Project for Medicaid Reimbursement for Acupuncture Treatment of Substance Abuse      RESOLVE 41**

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
BRENNAN                              OTP-AM                                      H-464

**SUMMARY**

This resolve requires the Department of Human Services to undertake a 2-year pilot project to provide Medicaid reimbursement for acupuncture treatment for alcoholism and drug dependency. It requires a report to the Human Resources Committee by January 1, 1998.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-464) replaces the original resolve. It authorizes the Department of Human Services and the Office of Substance Abuse to establish a pilot project of not more than 2 years' duration to provide Medicaid reimbursement for acupuncture treatment of alcoholism and drug dependency, provided that the project results in no increased cost to the Medicaid program.

**LD 144      An Act to Amend Medicaid Eligibility for Admission to Nursing Home Facilities      ONTP**

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

**SUMMARY**

This bill returns the medical criteria for admission to a nursing home facility to the criteria that were in effect on June 30, 1993. It applies retroactively to all determinations of eligibility for admission on or after July 1, 1993.

See also LD 218 and LD 1121.

**LD 147      An Act to Privatize the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory within the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health      ONTP**

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

**SUMMARY**

This bill establishes a competitive bid process for the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory of the Department of Human Services. It places responsibility for the bid process in the Bureau of General Services. It requires a report to the State and Local Government Committee documenting that savings of \$50,000 per year are possible and a vote of the committee approving the use of the competitive bid process in order for the legislation to take effect. It requires \$50,000 per year to be transferred from the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory Special Revenue Account to the General Fund.