

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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**Denotes Chair*



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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 & 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&S XXX</i> | <i>Chapter # of enacted Private & 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

LD 204 **An Act to Legalize Cannabis for Medical Treatment of Patients With HIV/AIDS** ONTP

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

SUMMARY

The bill creates an affirmative defense to prosecution for the civil violation for possession of 1 1/4 ounces or less of marijuana if the person possesses the marijuana for the person's own use and the person was diagnosed before the alleged violation as having Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

See also LD 784 and LD 929.

LD 209 **An Act to Reduce Costs in the Department of Human Services by Reducing Functions to the Federally Mandated Level** ONTP

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

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Human Services to reduce its functions to the level of services that are federally mandated. It requires a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources by October 5, 1995 on reductions that will occur by December 1, 1995. It requires a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources by March 1, 1996, on reductions that will occur by July 1, 1996. Both reports must contain the legislation necessary to accomplish the reductions in functions and must identify all expenditures that will be required and cost savings to the State as a result of the reductions.

LD 218 **An Act to Establish Standards for Medical Eligibility Determination for Applicants to Nursing Homes** ONTP

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

SUMMARY

This bill clarifies the standard that must be used in determining Medicaid medical eligibility for nursing facility care and specifies that individuals are entitled to nursing facility care unless their needs can be fully met by programs and services that exist in the community.

See also LD 144 and LD 1121.

LD 228 **An Act to Restrict the Duration and Amount of Welfare Benefits** ONTP

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

SUMMARY

In section A-1, this bill requires the Department of Human Services to apply to the United States Department of Health and Human Services for a waiver to establish the Time Limitation Program, under