

# 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  
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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

which the maximum time period for receiving cash assistance benefits under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program is 24 months. Families may receive Medicaid benefits for no more than 36 months following the expiration of eligibility for cash assistance benefits. After receipt of benefits for the maximum time period, a family is ineligible for similar benefits for a period of 5 years.

In section B-1, this bill alters the education, training and employment participation requirements for the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program. It lowers from 3 years to one year the age of children that exempts a parent from participation. It lowers from 25 to 24 the age for parents who may choose between employment, training and a new Learnfare Program. It repeals choice of education, training or employment options applicable only to parents ages 18, 19 and 20. It limits provision of services under the program to 24 months in any 36-month period. Compliance with the Learnfare Program is required to qualify for benefits.

In section B-2, 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 Learnfare Program. All children 5 years of age and older who have not completed high school or its equivalent and all heads of household under 24 years of age who have not completed high school or its equivalent must attend school regularly to be eligible to receive cash assistance benefits under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program. Heads of household under age 24 who have full-time jobs are exempt from participation. The department must provide case management services. Services under the Learnfare Program may not be provided for more than 24 months in any 36-month period.

In section C-1, the bill directs the Department of Human Services to apply to the United States Department of Health and Human Services for a federal waiver for the Family Responsibility Program to provide no additional cash assistance benefits to recipients who conceive or have additional children while receiving benefits. The bill does not cap the cash assistance benefit for a child conceived prior to the date on which eligibility was determined.

See also LD 1496.

**LD 233      An Act to Ensure Appropriate Resource and Referral Services  
for Families Needing Child Care**

**DIED BETWEEN  
BODIES**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
PARADIS	OTP-AM      MAJ	
SHIAH	ONTP          MIN	

**SUMMARY**

This bill extends the funding for the continuation of the resource development centers under the jurisdiction of the Department of Human Services from June 30, 1995 to June 30, 1996.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-27) would have added a fiscal note.

This bill failed emergency enactment in the House and died between bodies.

**LD 245      An Act to Ensure Children's Protection against Rabies by  
Requiring Proof of Rabies Vaccination of Pets at Day Care  
Facilities and Home Babysitting Services**

**PUBLIC 74**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
PLOWMAN	OTP-AM	H-96

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires that day care facilities for children and home baby-sitting services must provide proof of rabies vaccination for any dog or cat residing permanently or occasionally on its premises.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-96) requires the Commissioner of Human Services to adopt rules to ensure that pets that reside in licensed day care facilities and registered home babysitting services have current and appropriate rabies vaccinations.

**LD 250      An Act to Authorize Municipalities to Prohibit Smoking in Buildings Used by Minors under 18 Years of Age      ONTP**

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

**SUMMARY**

This bill allows the legislative body of a municipality to prohibit smoking in a public place under the control of the legislative body when a beano or a bingo game is being played if that public place is used by minors who have not attained 18 years of age.

**LD 251      An Act Requiring Medicaid Recipients to Have Primary Care Physicians      ONTP**

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

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Human Services to apply for all waivers necessary to establish managed care in the Medicaid program. It requires all Medicaid recipients to be enrolled with primary care health care providers whose prior knowledge and approval are required in order for recipients to be eligible for any visits to, examinations by, prescriptions from and consultations with any other health care providers.

**LD 268      An Act to Create a Learnfare Program in the State      ONTP**

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

**SUMMARY**

The bill directs the Department of Human Services to pursue a federal waiver to establish a Learnfare Program. Under the Learnfare Program parents under the age of 24 who are heads of households and children in households receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children who have not completed high school must attend school regularly. Case management services are provided. Benefits are suspended for failure to comply with the program requirements. The department is required to implement the program 90 days after the granting of the waiver by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.