

# 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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**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

The "Ought-not-to-Pass" report was accepted in the Senate. The House voted to indefinitely postpone. The bill died between bodies.

**LD 493**      **An Act to Amend Certain Powers of Hospital Administrative District No. 4**      P & S 14  
EMERGENCY

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
HALL                                      OTP

**SUMMARY**

This bill authorizes Hospital Administrative District No. 4 to extend its services and facilities to any persons and areas that it may competitively serve.

**LD 508**      **Resolve, Directing the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to Review Respite Care Licensing Standards**      ONTP

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

**SUMMARY**

This resolve directs the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to review its standards for licensing respite care providers. The resolve directs the department to examine limiting the use of information showing involvement by child protective services of the Department of Human Services that is more than 7 years old when that information shows minor situations that do not place children in jeopardy.

**LD 540**      **Resolve, to Implement the Recommendations of the Healthy Start Task Force**      RESOLVE 46

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
    OTP-AM                                      H-185  
    S-375      HANLEY

**SUMMARY**

This resolve implements the recommendations of the Healthy Start Task Force. It establishes the Healthy Start Pilot Project in 3 locations to provide community-based home visitation programs that are preventative, comprehensive, family-focused and universally available within the project areas. The Department of Human Services administers the pilot projects through a contract process. All pilot projects use consistent program design, training and evaluation, the Hawaii Healthy Start manual and the Maine Healthy Start Critical Elements. All pilot projects must collaborate with other entities in the community providing services to families.

The pilot projects are of 4 years' duration and are funded for the first 2 years. Administrative costs are limited to 10% and evaluation costs to 15% of the project cost. All pilot projects must match 25% of the contract amount with community-based funding. All pilot projects must meet regularly with the other projects and with the Bureau of Child and Family Services.

Reports to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over human resources matters and the Executive Director of the Legislative Council are due from all pilot projects by January 1, 1996.

There is an appropriation for fiscal year 1995-96 of \$556,842 and for fiscal year 1996-97 of \$953,731.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-185) replaces the entire resolve. It adds a planning process for the Healthy Start Pilot Project as the first year activity. It funds the projects beginning in the 2nd year of the biennium. It deletes reference to Hawaii and the Hawaii Family Stress Checklist. It requires the Department of Human Services to meet with the pilot projects regularly, to oversee the projects and to develop an evaluation plan. It delays the interim report date until 1997 and calls for a complete report by January 1, 1999.

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-375) amends the committee amendment, providing funding for the second half of fiscal year 1996-97 only.

**LD 565      Resolve, Directing the Department of Human Services to      RESOLVE 10**  
**Review the Regulations for the Licensure of General and**  
**Specialty Hospitals and Report to the Joint Standing**  
**Committee on Human Resources**

**SPONSOR(S)**

MERES  
KILKELLY

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

H-155

**SUMMARY**

This resolve directs the Department of Human Services to review the regulations and rules for the licensure of general and specialty hospitals and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources by January 1, 1996.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-155) directs the review of hospital licensing regulations to focus on regulations concerning completion of patient records and physical examinations upon admission of patients. It adds as a standard of review that the regulations are more closely aligned with the requirements of state and federal law. It requires the report to address any action taken as a result of the review.

**LD 575      An Act to Require the Department of Human Services to Pay      ONTP**  
**for Testing Public School Water Supplies in Accordance**  
**with the Safe Drinking Water Act**

**SPONSOR(S)**

MCELROY

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill exempts public schools from paying fees related to water primacy beginning in fiscal year 1995-96. It also provides General Fund appropriations and Other Special Revenue deallocations to the Department of Human Services to reflect the loss of dedicated revenue and to provide funds to continue drinking water enforcement activities.