

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
117TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
BANKING AND INSURANCE**

**JUNE 1996**

***MEMBERS:***

***Sen. I. Joel Abromson, Chair***

***Sen. Mary E. Small***

***Sen. Dale McCormick***

***Rep. Marc J. Vigue, Chair***

***Rep. Gail M. Chase***

***Rep. Gordon P. Gates***

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***Rep. Richard H. Thompson***

***Rep. Richard H. Campbell***

***Rep. William G. Guerrette, Jr.***

***Rep. Sumner A. Jones, Jr.***

***Rep. Lisa Lumbra***

***Rep. Arthur F. Mayo III***

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**ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

***Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees  
June 1996***

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the 15 Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature staffed by this office. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill, committee amendments and other relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken on the bill. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized alphabetically by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills.

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are 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 finally passed 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>

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is July 4, 1996.

reorganization of State Government necessary to accomplish the objectives of the Maine Health Care Agency and legislation needed to carry out the purposes of the bill. The agency is directed to apply for all waivers required to coordinate the benefits of the Maine Health Care Plan and the Medicaid and Medicare programs. A report is due to the Legislature by March 1, 1997.

9. Part I of the bill declared the Legislature's intent to abolish the Bureau of Health and the Bureau of Medical Services and to transfer their powers, responsibilities, programs, staff and resources to the Maine Health Care Agency by January 1, 1997. The agency is directed to work with the Commissioner of Human Services to prepare all necessary legislation and submit it to the Legislature by December 1, 1996.

See related bills LD 1798 and LD 1803.

**LD 752**                    **An Act to Include Obstetricians and Gynecologists as**                    **ONTP**  
**Primary Care Providers**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS	ONTP	

LD 752 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to make identical changes in the requirements for individual health insurance, group health insurance and health care coverage provided by nonprofit hospital and medical service organizations and health maintenance organizations. All requirements proposed to take effect on January 1, 1996. The requirements included the following.

1. Plans that designate physicians as primary care providers must designate physicians providing gynecological and obstetrical services as primary care providers.
2. Coverage must be provided for semiannual gynecological examinations and gynecological and obstetrical services required as a result of those exams or as a result of an acute health care condition and pregnancy.
3. Written notice of gynecological and obstetrical service coverage must be provided.

See related bills LD 1079 and LD 1385.

**LD 841**                    **An Act to Amend the Approval Requirements for Medicare**                    **ONTP**  
**Supplement Insurance Policies**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARPENTER LORD	ONTP	

LD 841 was carried over from the First Regular Session. Due to standardization of Medicare supplement policies and community rating reform legislation, annual review and approval of Medicare supplement rates is no longer necessary. As long as no rate increase is requested and the rates meet minimum loss ratio standards, this bill proposed to require filing every year for informational purposes.

See related bill LD 1513.