

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
117TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
HUMAN RESOURCES<sup>1</sup>**

**JUNE 1996**

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Joan M. Pendexter, Chair*

*Sen. John W. Benoit*

*Sen. Rochelle M. Pingree*

*Rep. Michael J. Fitzpatrick, Chair*

*Rep. Birger T. Johnson*

*Rep. David Etnier*

*Rep. J. Elizabeth Mitchell*

*Rep. Kyle W. Jones*

*Rep. Glenys P. Lovett*

*Rep. Jeffery G. Joyner*

*Rep. Jean Ginn Marvin*

*Rep. Robert J. Winglass*

*Rep. Henry L. Joy*

**Staff:**

*Jane Orbeton, Legislative Analyst*

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<sup>1</sup> Amendments to Joint Rule 13 adopted this session changed the committee name to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services.



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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.

point of service machines on a periodic basis. The bill would have required the Department of Human Services to apply for a waiver to establish the electronic benefit delivery program and would have required that program to be implemented within 90 days of receipt of the waiver. It would have required a report by January 1, 1996, by the Department of Human Services to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources on progress in implementing the program. The original title of the bill was “An Act to Establish an Electronic Benefit Delivery Program for Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Food Stamp, Women, Infants and Children Special Supplemental Food and Medicaid Programs.”

**Committee Amendment "A" (H- 842)** is the Majority Report. It replaced the bill. It proposed to remove the waiver application date of October 20, 1995 for the electronic benefit delivery program and authorize the Department of Human Services to establish an electronic benefit transfer system. It would have allowed for participation in the electronic benefit transfer system by departments other than the Department of Human Services and for programs in addition to Aid to Families with Dependent Children, food stamps and Medicaid. It would have removed the Women, Infants and Children Special Supplemental Food Program from the participating programs. It proposed to change the date for the report to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources from January 1, 1996 to January 1, 1997. It would have added a fiscal note to the bill.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1995, chapter 675 comprises the provisions of Committee Amendment A. It changes the title of the bill. It authorizes the Department of Human Services to establish an electronic benefit transfer system for delivery of benefits under the Medicaid, food stamps and AFDC programs. It allows for participation in the electronic benefit transfer system by other departments and for other programs. It requires a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources on January 1, 1997.

**LD 974**                      **An Act to Create an Advisory Board and State and Local Interagency Teams to Assist in the Provision of Care for Children and Adolescents with Severe Emotional Disturbance**                      ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> FITZPATRICK	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 974, a bill carried over from the First Regular Session, proposed to require that a program of integrated case management and services be provided for children and adolescents with severe emotional disturbance. It would have established the State Interagency Team and several local interagency teams to direct and facilitate the delivery of the integrated services. Under the bill, the Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of Corrections and the Commissioner of Human Services would have been directed, as members of the Interdepartmental Council, to cooperate in the delivery of integrated services, and an advisory committee for the council would have been created.

**LD 1601**                      **An Act to Allow Physicians' Offices to Receive Discounts from Pharmaceutical Manufacturers**                      PUBLIC 548

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> JOHNSON	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-725
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