

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

Staff:

Jane Orbeton, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

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**Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

State House Station 13, Augusta, Maine 04333
Telephone (207) 287-1670
Telecopier (207) 287-1275

**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 1401 An Act Relating to the Establishment of a Continuum of
Quality and Affordable Long-term Care and Service
Alternatives**

**PUBLIC 362
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)
PENDEXTER

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-271

SUMMARY

This bill replaces current law governing congregate housing for the elderly with a law of broader scope. The bill seeks to establish a more flexible, and cost-effective regulatory scheme for long-term care facilities serving senior citizens who do not need the level of care provided by nursing facilities and choose to maintain the maximum level of independence possible.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-271) replaces the entire bill. It adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause. It enables congregate projects for the elderly to be financed by the Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority. It requires congregate housing to meet appropriate provisions of the 1994 Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection Association as verified by the Office of the State Fire Marshal Office. The amendment also contains the particular chapters of the Life Safety Code applicable to different types and sizes of congregate housing facilities.

It creates the Assisted Living Task Force to study state law and regulations concerning the services and facilities designated as congregate housing, assisted living and residential care. It requires the task force to report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources, with necessary legislation, by February 15, 1996.

It also adds a fiscal note.

See also LD 1139.

**LD 1406 An Act to Assist Working Families during Catastrophic
Illness and Economic Hardship through Eligibility for
Medicaid**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
TUTTLE

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill directs the Department of Human Services to review the Medicaid assets test or seek all necessary waivers to exempt a primary residence, retirement accounts and personal motor vehicles from the Medicaid assets test or seek all necessary waivers for any other reduction of means testing criteria in order to assist working families during catastrophic illness and economic hardship.

LD 1413 Resolve, to Create Access to Child Care

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
SAXL M

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED