

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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[No title or cover page for 2nd Special Session bill summaries was ever published. This cover page is based on similar published examples.]

STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE

2ND SPECIAL SESSION

(SEPTEMBER 5 - 7, 1996)

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES

1996

[No explanatory list was initially provided with the 2nd Special Session bill summaries. This list is based on similar examples]



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ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

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:

CARRIED OVERBill carried over to Second Session
CON RES XXX Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
DIED BETWEEN BODIES House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
EMERGENCY Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT Bill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
INDEF PP Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP Ought Not To Pass report accepted
P&S XXX Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PUBLIC XXX Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED Not signed by Governor within 10 days
VETO SUSTAINED Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Special Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is December 7, 1996.

Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources

LD 1895

An Act to Authorize the Department of Human Services to Accept Federal Funds and to Make Certain Expenditures

PUBLIC 707

Sponsor(s)
KERR
HANLEY

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

LD 1895 was referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

LD 1895 proposed to allocate federal funds and Other Special Revenue funds to the Department of Human Services for the purpose of completing the Maine Automated Child Welfare Information System, MACWIS. The bill would have clarified a section of Public Law 1995, chapter 665, which restricts the use of Maximus-generated revenue, to authorize payment of costs of recovery, including contract fees.

The bill also would have authorized the Department of Human Services to accept Federal Block Grant Funds under the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PL 104-193, for the purposes of continuing current state welfare policy. The bill would have stated that any additional funds accrued over and above the amount previously allocated would accrue in the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 Block Grant account. The bill would have directed the Department of Human Services to maintain all existing state welfare programs authorized by current state laws and rules, including the rules on pass-through of child support funds and legal immigrant families. The bill also would have directed the Department of Human Services to submit legislation to the 118th Legislature for the use of any additional federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 funds and related welfare program changes.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-939) is the Majority Report of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. It would have authorized the Department of Human Services to maintain current state law and rules on pass-through of child support funds and legal immigrant families until April 1, 1997. It would have reinstated statutory language on block grants inadvertently repealed in Public Law 1995, chapter 591 and corrected an error in the emergency clause at the end of the bill. It would have added a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public law 1995, chapter 707 comprises the original bill and the provisions of Committee Amendment A. It allocates federal funds and Other Special Revenue funds to the Department of Human Services for the purpose of completing the Maine Automated Child Welfare Information System, MACWIS. It clarifies a section of Public Law 1995, chapter 665, which restricts the use of Maximus-generated revenue, to authorize payment of costs of recovery, including contract fees.

It authorizes the Department of Human Services to accept Federal Block Grant Funds under the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PL 104-193, for the purposes of continuing current state welfare policy. It states that any additional funds accrued over and above the amount previously allocated accrue in the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 Block Grant account. It directs the Department of Human Services to maintain all existing state welfare programs authorized by current state laws and rules, including the rules on pass-through of child support funds and legal immigrant families until April 1, 1997. It directs the Department of Human Services to submit legislation to the 118th Legislature for the use of any additional federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 funds and related welfare program changes.

It reinstates statutory language on block grants that was inadvertently repealed in Public Law 1995, chapter 591. It corrects an error in the emergency clause at the end of the bill.

Public Law 1995, chapter 707 has several effective dates. The provisions on funds for the Maine Automated Child Welfare Information System, MACWIS, apply retroactively to April 1, 1996. The provision on block grants contained in 5 MRSA §1669-A take effect February 1, 1997. The other provisions of the law were effective September 16, 1996.