

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

JULY 1997

MEMBERS:

Sen. Judy Paradis, Chair

Sen. Susan W. Longley

Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell

Rep. J. Elizabeth Mitchell, Chair

Rep. Joseph E. Brooks

Rep. Elaine Fuller

Rep. Thomas J. Kane

Rep. Wendy Pieh

Rep. Michael W. Quint

Rep. Glenys P. Lovett

Rep. Jeffery G. Joyner

Rep. Tarren R. Bragdon

Rep. Lois A. Snowe-Mello

Staff:

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ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 1997

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. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

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 OVER.....	Bill carried over to Second Regular 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 IN CONCURRENCE.....	One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT.....	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
EMERGENCY.....	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	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
OTP ND.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
OTP ND/NT.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PUBLIC XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX.....	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED.....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 26, 1997 and September 19, 1997 for the First Special Session.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

LD 106

**Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Review the Effectiveness of
Statewide Confidentiality Laws Dealing with the Care of People
with Mental Illness**

INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)
WINGLASS

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

LD 106 proposed to create a study commission to review the effectiveness of statewide confidentiality laws dealing with the care of people with mental illness. The commission would have been required to submit its report and any accompanying legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-158) proposed to expand the membership of the Commission to Review the Effectiveness of Statewide Confidentiality Laws Dealing with the Care of People with Mental Illness and would have extended the commission's duties to include procedures that could be used to enable the Commissioner of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to communicate with the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services as required for the accomplishment of the committee's oversight responsibilities. It also would have added an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the resolve.

LD 108

**An Act to Amend the Criteria for Reimbursement by the Medicaid
Program for Nursing Facility Residents**

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
PERKINS

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 108 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to amend the medical criteria for reimbursement by the Medicaid program for residents of nursing facilities. For residents who were residents on June 30, 1993, the criteria would be the same as the criteria in effect on that date. The bill would have applied retroactively to all determinations of eligibility for admission on or after July 1, 1993.

LD 122

**An Act to Repeal the Funding for the Family Planning Association
of Maine**

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
MACK

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 122 proposed to prohibit the Department of Human Services from providing funding to the Family Planning Association of Maine, Inc.