

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:

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Sen. Susan W. Longley

Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell

Rep. J. Elizabeth Mitchell, Chair

Rep. Joseph E. Brooks

Rep. Elaine Fuller

Rep. Thomas J. Kane

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Rep. Lois A. Snowe-Mello

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



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
 Telephone: (207) 287-1670
 Fax: (207) 287-1275

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:

| | |
|---|--|
| <i>CARRIED OVER</i> | <i>Bill carried over to Second Regular 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 IN CONCURRENCE</i> | <i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</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/FINAL PASSAGE</i> | <i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i> |
| <i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</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>OTP ND</i> | <i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i> |
| <i>OTP ND/NT</i> | <i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</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 finally passed Resolve</i> |
| <i>UNSIGNED</i> | <i>Bill held by Governor</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 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

LD 126 **An Act to Limit Medicaid Coverage for Methadone Rehabilitation to One Year** **ONTP**

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|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> BRUNO | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|

LD 126 proposed to limit treatment under the long-term narcotic dependency treatment project for persons receiving reimbursement under the Medicaid program to one year per person and to require a minimum of 1/2 hour of counseling time per week per person.

LD 129 **An Act to Require That All Medicaid Funds Be Controlled by a Single State Agency** **ONTP**

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|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> BRUNO | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|

LD 129 proposed to require the Department of Corrections, the Departments of Education, Human Services and Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services regarding agreements to transfer authority for Medicaid program funding to a single state agency by January 1, 1998.

See also LD 1744 regarding Medicaid funding.

LD 130 **An Act to Provide Financial Incentives to a Company That Hires and Provides Health Insurance Benefits to a Medicaid Recipient** **ONTP**

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| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> BRUNO | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|

LD 130 proposed to provide for reimbursement of health care benefit costs to employers that hire recipients of transitional medical assistance under the Medicaid program. The Commissioner of Human Services would have been required to adopt rules to implement the reimbursement provision.

LD 146 **Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Use of Pharmaceuticals in Long-term Care Settings** **RESOLVE 71**

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|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> BRUNO | <u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-10 S-396 MICHAUD |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|

LD 146 proposed to create the Commission to Study the Use of Pharmaceuticals in Long-term Care Settings.