

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

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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:

<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**

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

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**

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

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**

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

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**

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

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

Committee Amendment "A" (H-10) proposed to change the membership of the Commission to Study the Use of Pharmaceuticals in Long-term Care Settings, adding a physician and a registered nurse, each with experience in long-term care, and decreasing the legislative members from 4 to 3. It would have added to the list of duties examination of potential cost savings and other benefits from more efficient patterns of stocking standard, nonchargeable medical supplies. It would have allowed travel reimbursement for all members of the commission and compensation for attendance at meetings for all nonsalaried members. The amendment would have added an appropriation to pay for the expenses of the commission and a fiscal note.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-396) proposed to specify that only legislative members receive per diem and reimbursement for expenses, authorized a certain number of meetings and revised the appropriation section.

Enacted law summary

Resolves 1997, chapter 71 comprises the provisions of the resolve, the committee amendment and Senate Amendment "A". It creates the Commission to Study the Use of Pharmaceuticals in Long-term Care Settings, a 10-member commission charged with meeting three times and reporting to the Health and Human Services Committee by January 1, 1998.

**LD 153 An Act to Provide Social Services to Children in Need of Services CARRIED OVER
and State Supervision**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BUNKER PARADIS		

LD 153 proposed to establish 2 systems for providing services to children who are runaways, homeless or truant or whose conduct is violent or aggressive or places them at risk or in danger of serious harm or serious injury. The children who are to receive services from the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services would be designated as children in need of services. Services to this group of children would be based on cooperation between the child and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services. The children who are to receive services from the Department of Human Services, because their conduct creates a threat of serious harm or serious injury, would be designated as children in need of state supervision. Services to this group of children would be based on a voluntary agreement between the Department of Human Services and the custodial parent or custodian of the child.

LD 158 An Act to Preserve Roadside Springs PUBLIC 45

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FERGUSON LAVERDIERE	OTP-AM	S-29

LD 158 proposed to urge the Commissioner of Transportation to make efforts to keep public springs open and required the commissioner to allow municipal or county officials to pay for testing of water to verify compliance with applicable state and federal drinking water standards.