

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

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Staff:

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Maine State Legislature
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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 1006

An Act to Legalize Marijuana for Medical Purposes

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> STEVENS KILKELLY	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1006 proposed to reestablish the Marijuana Therapeutic Research Program, which was repealed December 31, 1987. The bill would have established the Participation Review Board to review and approve practitioners who want to participate in the program and any patient who wishes to participate in the program. Participation would have been limited to chemotherapy or radiation therapy and glaucoma patients who are not responding to conventional treatment or who are suffering severe side effects, and any other patient when medical evidence presented to the board justifies that participation. The patient's physician would have been allowed to write a prescription to be filled at a state or privately operated licensed pharmacy designated by the commissioner.

See also LD 1059.

LD 1020

An Act Allowing Increased Flexibility of Swing Beds

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GOLDTHWAIT	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1020 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to adopt rules permitting a nursing home to designate the level of care for a bed based on the level of care of the person admitted and to change the level of care of a bed without requiring a certificate of need.

LD 1021

An Act to Promote the Establishment of Individual Development Accounts by Low-income Families

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TREAT KONTOS	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1021 proposed to authorize families receiving AFDC to establish individual development accounts that would be used to help the family become self-sufficient.

See LD 1716, Public Law 1997, chapter 518 on family development accounts.