

# 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*

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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](http://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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-692)** is the minority report of the committee. It would have amended the bill by deleting the provision on qualifications of acting superintendents and added a limit of 6 months for a person to serve as acting superintendent.

**LD 1427**                      **An Act to Create Quality Employment and Business Ownership Opportunities for Social Assistance Recipients**                      **PUBLIC 484 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PINGREE		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-342
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LD 1427 proposed to establish the Quality Employment Opportunities and Business Ownership Opportunities program, a demonstration project of the Department of Human Services and the Department of Economic and Community Development. Grants would be made by the departments to eligible organizations under the program.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-342)** proposed to establish the Quality Employment and Business Ownership Opportunities program. The amendment would add an emergency preamble and emergency clause and restrict eligible participants to persons receiving TANF. It would add the Department of Labor to the cooperating departments and reduce the time for the demonstration project to 2 years. It would require the departments and grantees to provide a progress report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development by March 15, 1998 and a final report, including recommendations on continuation of the program, by January 15, 2000. It would add a fiscal note and provide funding of \$300,000 per year for the grant program. The law takes effect June 11, 1997.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1997, chapter 484 comprises the provisions of the bill and the committee amendment. It establishes a 2-year pilot project, the Quality Employment and Business Ownership Opportunities program to aid persons receiving TANF assistance in obtaining employment. It requires an interim report by 3/15/98 and a final report by 1/1/2000.

**LD 1432**                      **Resolve, to Encourage Nonprofit Entities to Work Together in a Community P.R.I.D.E. Program**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> JENKINS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1432 proposed to require the Departments of Human Services, Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, Economic and Community Development, Education, and Labor to encourage nonprofit entities to work together in a statewide community Personal Responsibility In Daily Effort "P.R.I.D.E." program to more effectively help residents of this State to secure adequate food and clothing and counseling, child care, educational, job training and medical services.