

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

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Rep. Lois A. Snowe-Mello

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:

- 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

LD 1691**An Act to Significantly Reduce Smoking and Tobacco Use among the Young People of Maine****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MITCHELL J		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1691 proposed to establish a self-funded program to reduce dramatically the use of tobacco products by young people in this State, and to fund other health care, tax relief and business transition programs the Legislature considers appropriate. It would have raised tobacco taxes \$1 per pack of cigarettes and dedicated the funds for health care, anti-smoking campaigns, increased enforcement and held harmless the General Fund tobacco tax revenues.

See also committee bills, LD 1886 and 1887 and Governor King's bill, LD 1898. See also LD 1904, Public Law 1997, chapter 560.

LD 1693**An Act to Amend the Maine Health Data Organization Laws****PUBLIC 525
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-206 MITCHELL, J S-369 MICHAUD
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LD 1693, which was a committee bill reported pursuant to joint order, proposed to correct 2 unintended omissions in the Maine Health Data Organization's enabling legislation. It would have added radiological facilities to the definition of health care facility, and services is added to the statutory section requiring ambulatory data to be filed by health care providers. Both additions would maintain the status quo and require no additional providers to submit data. This bill proposed to allow any interest that is generated from the dedicated revenues to remain in the dedicated account. It would have changed the designation of rules adopted by the Maine Health Data Organization board from major substantive rules to routine technical rules. It would have provided for permanent funding from fees charged by the organization and from assessments on providers of health care services and insurers. It would have added emergency language to ensure that a method of permanent funding is provided and the organization is authorized to conduct its business.

House Amendment "A" (H-206) proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-369) proposed to undedicate the interest income earned on the Maine Health Data Organization dedicated fund balances.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, Chapter 525 comprises the provisions of the bill and House Amendment "A" and Senate Amendment "A". It includes radiological facilities as health care facilities and broadens ambulatory surgical data to include services. It designates organization rules as routine technical rules. It provides for permanent funding.