

# 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  
BANKING AND INSURANCE**

**JULY 1997**

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain III, Chair*

*Sen. Robert E. Murray, Jr.*

*Sen. I. Joel Abromson*

*Rep. Jane W. Saxl, Chair*

*Rep. Julie Winn*

*Rep. Thomas M. Davidson*

*Rep. Christopher P. O'Neil*

*Rep. Joseph C. Perry*

*Rep. Stephen S. Stanley*

*Rep. Joseph G. Carleton, Jr.*

*Rep. Sumner A. Jones, Jr.*

*Rep. Arthur F. Mayo III*

*Rep. Joseph Bruno*

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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

**LD 1664**

**An Act to Require Bids from Health Care Providers for State Employees to Include Medicaid Coverage**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
PINGREE  
SAXL M

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1664 proposed to require any insurance company, nonprofit hospital, medical or health care service organization, health maintenance organization, third-party administrator or any other organization administering and operating a health care plan that bids for participation in the state employee health insurance program to also bid for participation in the Medicaid program. It also provides that any organization that participates as a contractor in both programs must maintain a separate risk pool between the Medicaid population and state employees.

**LD 1738**

**An Act to Include Nontraditional Medical Alternatives under Health Maintenance Organization and Medicaid Coverage and to Allow the Patient to Choose the Method of Treatment**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
GERRY

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1738 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to authorize coverage of nontraditional medical alternatives and nutritional and dietary services under the Medicaid program. The bill also proposed to require all health maintenance organization plan contracts to provide coverage of nontraditional medical alternatives and nutritional and dietary services. The bill also allows the patient to choose the method of treatment.

**LD 1741**

**An Act to Establish the Maine Single-payor Health Care Plan and to Restructure the State Tax System**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
VOLENIK

Committee Report  
ONTP MAJ  
OTP-AM MIN

Amendments Adopted

LD 1741 proposed to establish universal health insurance coverage in the State through the following changes.

Part A of the bill proposed to establish the Maine Single-payor Health Care Plan. It establishes the Department of Health Security as an independent agency to administer the plan. Under the plan, enrollees pay premiums to the plan and choose their own health care providers and the plan pays their bills. Coverage under the plan is supplemental to other coverage. The bill requires a report from the Commissioner of Health Security to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over human resource matters on the options for coordination of the plan with other health plans and for the plan to take over coverage of some persons covered by those health plans. The bill requires an annual report from the commissioner to the Governor and the Legislature on the operation and activities of the plan.