

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

JULY 1999

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Sen. Georgette B. Berube
Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell*

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Maine State Legislature
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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees
August 1999

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is organized 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
ENACTMENT FAILED.....	Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY.....	Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEF PP.....	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONT P.....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OT P ND.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
OT P 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 September 18, 1999.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

Resolve 1999, chapter 30 requires the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to study the confidentiality of information regarding persons receiving services funded in whole or in part by the department and report its findings and any recommended legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by December 1, 2000. The study must include participation from consumers and providers of services, Legislators and local service networks. The study must consider the requirements of professional ethical standards and state and federal laws, rules and regulations.

LD 733

An Act to Require the Department of Human Services to Pursue the Elderly Drug Waiver

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GERRY	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 733 proposed to provide a new time frame for the Department of Human Services to apply for a Medicaid waiver for prescription drugs for the elderly and require the submission of implementing legislation by December 1, 1999. See also Public Law 1999, chapter 401, Part KKK and chapter 531, Part F.

LD 734

An Act to Strengthen the Child Care Licensing Laws

PUBLIC 363

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TOWNSEND PARADIS	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-533
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LD 734 proposed to clarify the legal basis for small, nonhome-based child care programs; strengthen penalties for illegal operations; provide a mechanism to close child care facilities immediately whenever conditions exist that threaten the welfare of children; and allow the Department of Human Services to issue temporary licenses when fully licensed providers move to new locations.

This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Human Services.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-533) proposed to clarify the language on fines in the bill. It proposed to add a provision that penalties be paid into the existing Purchased Social Services Other Special Revenue account. It proposed to require the Department of Human Services to adopt rules regarding the licensure of home day care providers and day care centers.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 363 clarifies the legal basis for small, nonhome-based child care programs; strengthens penalties for illegal operations; provides a mechanism to close child care facilities immediately whenever conditions exist that threaten the welfare of children; and allows the Department of Human Services to issue temporary licenses when fully licensed providers move to new locations. It provides that penalties be paid into the existing Purchased Social Services Other Special Revenue account. It requires the Department of Human Services to adopt rules regarding the licensure of home day care providers and day care centers.