

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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

**JULY 1999**

**Staff:**  
*Jane Orbeton, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207)287-1670*

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Judy Paradis, Chair  
Sen. Georgette B. Berube  
Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell*

*Rep. Thomas J. Kane, Chair  
Rep. Joseph E. Brooks  
Rep. Elaine Fuller  
Rep. Michael W. Quint  
Rep. Edward R. Dugay  
Rep. Daniel B. Williams  
Rep. Glenys P. Lovett  
Rep. Tarren R. Bragdon  
Rep. Lois A. Snowe-Mello  
Rep. Thomas F. Shields*



**Maine State Legislature**  
**OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013  
Telephone: (207) 287-1670  
Fax: (207) 287-1275

**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](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:

*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  
*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 September 18, 1999.

**LD 881**

**An Act to Require the Department of Human Services to Pay for Child Care for Children of Teen Parents Enrolled in High School**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TESSIER DAGGETT	ONTP	

LD 881 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to make available child care and child care subsidies for teenage parents who do not receive benefits under the temporary assistance for needy families program and who attend high school.

**LD 918**

**An Act to Mandate Abortion Reporting Standards**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PLOWMAN BERUBE	ONTP	

LD 918 proposed to require the completion of abortion reports that are already required for the Department of Human Services and provide a forfeiture for failure to complete the forms.

**LD 956**

**Resolve, to Implement the Recommendations of the Task Force to Study Strategies to Support Parents as Children's First Teachers**

**RESOLVE 79**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BAKER LAWRENCE	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-623 S-454 MICHAUD

LD 956 which was jointly referred to the Health and Human Services Committee (the lead committee) and the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee proposed to implement the following recommendations of the Task Force to Study Strategies to Support Parents as Children's First Teachers. The resolve proposed to:

1. Direct the Department of Human Services to expand home visiting services to the parents of all newborn children in the State, if the parents desire the services, beginning January 1, 2000, until those children attain the age of five years.
2. Direct the Department of Education to include a course of study in parenting education in its development of curricula and include this course of study in the learning results assessment of students.

The resolve also proposed to change the name of the task force to the "Task Force on Early Care and Education." It proposed to direct the task force to monitor the development of the process that supports home visiting programs by the Department of Human Services and the development of a course of study in parenting education by the Department of Education and to further study the needs of and for family resource centers. The resolve proposed to add two more members who are Legislators to the task force and extend the life of the task force until January 15, 2001. See also LD 1315.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-623)** is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. The amendment proposed to replace the resolve. It proposed to retain the provisions of the resolve expanding home visiting services, require an evaluation component, allow voluntary donations on a sliding scale by families upon termination of services to those families and make General Fund appropriations to fund home visiting services. It proposed to change the name of the task force to the "Task Force on Early Care and Education." It proposed to direct the task force to monitor the development of the process that supports home visiting programs by the Department of Human Services. It proposed to delete reference to a course of study in parenting education. The amendment proposed to retain the provisions of the resolve that add two more members who are Legislators to the task force and extend the life of the task force until January 15, 2001. It proposed to require an interim report of the task force before January 15, 2000 and a final report before January 15, 2001. It also proposed to add an appropriation of \$1,622,600 in FY 1999-00 and \$6,408,440 in FY 2000-01.

The provisions of the resolve and the committee amendment expanding home visiting services, requiring an evaluation component to the program and allowing voluntary family donations on a sliding scale upon termination of services to those families were included in the Part II Budget, Public Law 1999, chapter 401, Part LLL.

**Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-454)** proposed to eliminate the General Fund costs of the bill by \$1,622,600 in fiscal year 1999-00 and \$6,408,440 in fiscal year 2000-01. A General Fund appropriation of \$1,620,000 was included in the Part II Budget, Public Law 1999, chapter 401, Part LLL.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 1999, chapter 79 renames the Task Force to Study Strategies to Support Parents as Children’s First Teachers. The new name is the Task Force on Early Care and Education. The task force membership is expanded to include two additional legislators. An interim report is required from the task force by January 15, 2000 and a final report by January 15, 2001

**LD 959** **An Act to Clarify the Standard for Cause in the Request for Proposal Process for the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services** **VETO SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FULLER MITCHELL B	OTP-AM	H-709

LD 959 proposed to require the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to make a determination that good cause exists prior to placing existing services out to competitive bid. Good cause would be defined to include the failure of the current provider to adhere to program, policy or performance criteria, to correct deficiencies, to improve services or to reduce costs, repeated and substantiated complaints against the provider, a material change in circumstances or other reasonable causes as provided by regulation. The bill proposed to also require the department to give providers of existing services 90 days notice prior to issuance of a request for proposals.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-229)** proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to place into law the procedures and grounds to be used when the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance