

# 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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**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.

This bill also proposes to give Legislators access to records maintained by the ombudsman relating to child custody cases in which the department is involved, as long as the parents of the child agree. See also LDs 114, 528 and 975.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.

**LD 1296**                      **Resolve, to Create the Task Force to Explore Alternative Payment Mechanisms for Dental Health Care**                      **INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARVIN PARADIS	OTP-AM	

LD 1296 proposed to create a task force of 7 members to study payment mechanisms for dental health care different from the existing Medicaid reimbursement system. The alternative payment mechanisms could include voucher systems, copayments or other mechanisms that allow for fair compensation to a dentist while reducing the amount of paperwork and administration of the payment process. The task force would report recommendations and possible proposed legislation concerning alternative payment mechanisms for dental health care to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by December 1, 1999.

**LD 1312**                      **An Act to Improve Consumers' Opportunities to Hire and Retain Personal Care Attendants**                      **INDEF PP**

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

LD 1312 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to adopt rules by October 1, 1999 to increase the reimbursement rates of consumer-directed personal care attendants. The bill also proposed to enact a mechanism to ensure a review of the reimbursement rates every 2 years and require input from consumers and the Long-term Care Steering Committee as part of the review process. See Part 2 budget, Public Law 1999, chapter 401, part SS.

**LD 1315**                      **An Act to Ensure the Quality and Safety of Child Care and to Expand Home Visiting Services**                      **PUBLIC 515**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROWE LONGLY	OTP      MAJ OTP-AM      MIN	S-435      MICHAUD

LD 1315 proposed to provide additional General Fund appropriations for child care services, Head Start and the Auditing, Contracting and Licensing Service Center to the Department of Human Services. This bill also proposed to require the Department of Human Services to adopt rules to implement the programs funded in the bill.