

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).

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 1551

**An Act to Provide a Method of Compensation for Personal Injuries
Caused by Side-stream Tobacco Smoke**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCKENNEY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1551 proposed to create a Side-stream Smoke Compensation Board for the purpose of assessing claims of persons injured by side-stream smoke. The bill proposed that if the board determines that a person were damaged by side-stream smoke, the board would make a monetary award to the person to compensate for damages. The bill proposed that funds for this compensation come from money awarded to the State in lawsuits against tobacco companies.

LD 1574

**An Act to Improve Access to Education for Parents as Scholars
Program Participants**

PUBLIC 407

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> QUINT CATHCART		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-656
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LD 1574 proposed to remove certain participation requirements for low-income parents participating in a postsecondary education program, known as the Parents as Scholars Program.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-656) proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to allow Parents as Scholars enrollees who were in their 3rd and 4th years of study to choose among work-site experience, education, training or study. It proposed to allow for adjustments to program requirements for good cause.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 407 allows Parents as Scholars enrollees who are in their 3rd and 4th years of study to choose among work-site experience, education, training or study. It allows for adjustments to program requirements for good cause.

LD 1578

Resolve, to Amend the Elderly Low-cost Drug Program

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MADORE		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1578 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to adopt rules to add drugs for cancer to the elderly low-cost drug program by December 1, 1999.