

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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

JULY 2000

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Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell*

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
July 2000

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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:

- 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
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*..... Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*..... Bill failed to get majority vote
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*..... Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
- 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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

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

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PINGREE KANE	OTP MAJ ONTP MIN	

LD 1477 proposed to extend Medicaid coverage to the parents or the caretaker relative of those children who are eligible for the Maine Medicaid program if their family income is below 150% of the nonfarm income official poverty line. The bill proposed to increase eligibility up to 185% of the nonfarm income official poverty line when nonfarm income official matching funds become available.

See Public Law 1999, chapter 731, part BBBB.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRENNAN	OTP-AM	H-1103 S-768 MICHAUD

LD 1623 proposed to establish the Children in Need of Services Program. The program proposed to provide for a safety plan consisting of housing, medical care, nutritional care and education for children 15 years of age and under who have been determined to be in need of supervision.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1103) proposed to establish the Youth in Need of Services Program. The program would provide for a preliminary assessment and safety plan consisting of housing, medical care, food, education, mental health and substance abuse services and treatment and support services for youth under 16 years of age who have been determined to be in need of services. The amendment proposed to provide for a proceeding in the District Court to obtain services for youth determined to be in imminent danger of serious physical, mental or emotional injury or at risk of prosecution for a juvenile offense. If a court finds that a youth is in need of services and is in imminent danger or at risk of prosecution for a juvenile offense, the amendment would require the court to order that those services be offered. The amendment proposed to require the establishment of a court-ordered service system for youth in need of services by July 1, 2001, with statewide operation by November 1, 2001. The amendment proposed to clarify that youth may receive treatment through religious means and that receiving treatment through religious means does not in itself qualify a youth as being in need of services.

The amendment proposed to establish the Youth in Need of Services Oversight Committee for children's issues when services are provided or funded by the State or when a youth would be eligible for state services or state-funded services, with the exception of mental health issues. The amendment proposed to require the Youth in Need of Services Oversight Committee to report to the Legislature by January 15, 2001 on court-ordered services for youth in need of services.

The amendment proposed to provide for the expansion to Region II of the Homeless Youth Demonstration Project created in Resolve 1999, chapter 55 and proposed to require the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to report on their

evaluation of the project and the recommendations of the stakeholders to the Youth in Need of Services Oversight Committee by February 1, 2001.

The amendment proposed to require the Department of Corrections, the Department of Education, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to work together to identify and develop plans to address the needs of youth in need of services, proposed to require them to begin discussions to sign memoranda of understanding to provide necessary services to youths 12 to 20 years of age and proposed to require them to report the results of their work to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters and to the Youth in Need of Services Oversight Committee by March 1, 2001. The amendment proposed to add an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-768) proposed to replace Committee Amendment "A." The amendment proposed to establish the Youth in Need of Services Pilot Program. The program would provide for a preliminary assessment and safety plan consisting of housing, medical care, food, education, mental health and substance abuse services and treatment and support services for youth under 15 years of age who have been determined to be in need of services. The amendment proposed to provide for a proceeding in the District Court to obtain services for youth determined to be in imminent danger of serious physical, mental or emotional injury or at risk of prosecution for a juvenile offense. If a court finds that a youth is in need of services and is in imminent danger or at risk of prosecution for a juvenile offense, the amendment proposed to require the court to order that those services be offered.

The amendment proposed to establish the Youth in Need of Services Oversight Committee and to provide for the expansion to Region II of the Homeless Youth Demonstration Project created in Resolve 1999, chapter 55 and proposed to require the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to report on their evaluation of the project and the recommendations of the stakeholders to the Youth in Need of Services Oversight Committee by February 1, 2001.

The amendment also proposed to add an appropriation section.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 778 establishes the Youth in Need of Services Pilot Program. The program provides for a preliminary assessment and a safety plan consisting of housing, medical care, food, education, mental health and substance abuse services and treatment and support services for youth under 15 years of age who have been determined to be in need of services. The law provides for a proceeding in the District Court to obtain services for youth determined to be in imminent danger of serious physical, mental or emotional injury or at risk of prosecution for a juvenile offense. If a court finds that a youth is in need of services and is in imminent danger or at risk of prosecution for a juvenile offense, the law requires the court to order that those services be offered.

The law expands to Region II the Homeless Youth Demonstration Project created in Resolve 1999, chapter 55. It requires the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to report on their evaluation of the project and the recommendations of the stakeholders to the Youth in Need of Services Oversight Committee by February 1, 2001.

LD 1668

An Act Regarding Promoting Access to Transportation

PUBLIC 631

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE QUINT	OTP-AM	S-595

LD 1668 proposed to establish the Drive ME Wheels-to-work Program and requires the Commissioner of Human Services to adopt rules to implement the program, which would provide loans for the purchase of used vehicles and for the purchase of repair and maintenance services to people who receive assistance through the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program. The loans would be provided through community action agencies at below-market rates. The bill also proposed to create a revolving loan fund to finance the program.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-595) proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to exempt from the used car dealer licensing requirements public agencies or nonprofit organizations that receive donated vehicles, place them in good operating order and provide them to low-income people for no more than the cost of ensuring that they are in good operating condition. Public or nonprofit organizations that provide vehicles in this manner would be subject to the used car information provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, chapter 217 and would be required to register with the Secretary of State and maintain a certificate of training as required by the Secretary of State.

The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 631 exempts from the used car dealer licensing requirements public agencies or nonprofit organizations that receive donated vehicles, place them in good operating order and provide them to low-income people for no more than the cost of ensuring that they are in good operating condition. Public or nonprofit organizations that provide vehicles in this manner are subject to the used car information provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, chapter 217 and are required to register with the Secretary of State and maintain a certificate of training as required by the Secretary of State.

LD 1733

An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Provision of Services to Persons with Alzheimer's Disease

ONTP

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

LD 1733 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to consider the fluctuating nature of Alzheimer's disease so that the medical and social needs of a person being evaluated for the disease could be fully assessed and the appropriate level of services provided.

See Public Law 1999, chapter 731, part BBBB.