

# 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. Georgette B. Berube  
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
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**LD 1807**

**Resolve, to Encourage Access and Quality Care for People with Alzheimer's Disease in Residential Care Facilities**

**ONTP**

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

LD 1807 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to review the case mix assessment tool and reimbursement rate for residential care facilities to ensure access and quality care for persons with Alzheimer's disease or other types of dementia.

See Public Law 1999, chapter 731, part BBBB.

**LD 1814**

**An Act Establishing the Newborn Hearing Program**

**PUBLIC 647**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FULLER TREAT	OTP-AM	H-931

LD 1814 proposed to establish the Newborn Hearing Program to provide hearing screening, evaluation, treatment and intervention to newborn children and to children within 3 months of the date of their birth. The program would be within the Department of Human Services and would be overseen by the Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Board. The bill proposed to require insurance policies and contracts and health maintenance organization contracts to provide coverage for newborn children hearing screening.

**Committee Amendment “A” (H-931)** proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to remove the oversight responsibilities of the Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Board, making it advisory only. The amendment proposed to remove the requirement that health coverage contracts provide newborn hearing screening and be subject to assessment to pay for screening.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 647 establishes the Newborn Hearing Program to provide hearing information on screening, evaluation, treatment and intervention to newborn children and to children within 3 months of the date of their birth. The program is within the Department of Human Services, with advice provided by the Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Board.