

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.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 62 requires the State Planning Office to develop a basic needs budget in cooperation with the Department of Human Services.

LD 1814 An Act Establishing the Newborn Hearing Program CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FULLER TREAT		

LD 1814 proposes 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 be overseen by the Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Board. The bill proposes to require insurance policies and contracts and health maintenance organization contracts to provide coverage for newborn children hearing screening.

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

LD 1818 An Act to Create Statewide Smoking Cessation Services INDEF PP

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

LD 1818 proposed to direct the Department of Human Services to develop a statewide smoking cessation program and provide minimum requirements for the program. It proposed to require a report by January 1, 2000 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters on progress in establishing a statewide smoking cessation program, including in the report any legislation required to establish the program. It proposed to require smoking cessation programs to receive funding under the tobacco prevention and control program.

LD 1825 Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Children in Need of Services RESOLVE 87 EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE PARADIS	OTP-AM	S-445 MICHAUD S-87

LD 1825 proposed to establish the Commission to Study Children in Need of Services. The commission would be charged with reviewing truancy problems, children who run away from their homes, emancipation of children and other factors that cause children to be in need of services. The commission would be required to report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by December 1, 1999.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-87) proposed to add an appropriation section.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-445) proposed to remove the provision for payment of legislative per diem to nonlegislative members of the study commission.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 87 establishes the Commission to Study Children in Need of Services to review truancy problems, children who run away from their homes, emancipation of children and other factors that cause children to be in need of services. The commission is required to report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by December 1, 1999.

Chapter 87 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 17, 1999.

**LD 1838 An Act to Include Mental Retardation, Developmental Disability CARRIED OVER
and Substance Abuse Services in the Community Service System of
the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and
Substance Abuse Services and to Consolidate Those Advisory
Bodies to the Department**

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

LD 1838 proposes to restructure the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to eliminate artificial barriers to services and the separation of the adult and children's mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse systems. This bill proposes to give statutory authority for stakeholders of all department services to participate in their local quality councils and include providers of services to persons with mental retardation or developmental disabilities, or both, and persons receiving substance abuse services in the local service networks. This bill proposes to eliminate population-specific committees that exist to advise the Commissioner of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services on implementation of statewide planning. The functions of these groups would be assumed by the statewide quality improvement council whose membership will be reflective of all constituencies served by the department.

This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services.

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