

# 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**

***MEMBERS:***

*Sen. Judy A. Paradis, Chair  
Sen. Georgette B. Berube  
Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell*

*Rep. Thomas J. Kane, Chair  
Rep. Joseph E. Brooks  
Rep. Elaine Fuller  
Rep. Michael W. Quint  
Rep. Edward R. Dugay  
Rep. Daniel B. Williams  
Rep. Glenys P. Lovett  
Rep. Tarren R. Bragdon  
Rep. Lois A. Snowe-Mello  
Rep. Thomas F. Shields*

***Staff:***

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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](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:

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

**LD 2272**

**An Act to Increase the Availability of Family Foster Homes**

**PUBLIC 599**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BROOKS	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2272 proposed to extend the term of a family foster home or specialized foster home license from a one-year period to a 2-year period.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 599 extends the term of a family foster home or specialized foster home license from a one-year period to a 2-year period.

**LD 2273**

**An Act Regarding Asthma Management Education**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DESMOND	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2273 proposed to direct the Department of Human Services to adopt rules no later than October 1, 2000 to provide Medicaid coverage for certified medical professionals in any health care setting to provide asthma management education.

**LD 2305**

**An Act to Amend the Child Care Licensing Laws**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TOWNSEND	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2305 proposed to clarify that both criminal and civil penalties may be imposed for violations of child care licensing laws.

This bill also proposed to allow the assessment of civil forfeitures of not more than \$500 per incident or per child above the limit set by law against child care facilities in violation of state licensing standards. It also proposed to allow the Department of Human Services to seek injunctive relief when necessary.

**LD 2308**

**Resolve, to Provide Adequate Reimbursement for Speech and Language Pathologists and Audiologists and a Study of Medicaid Reimbursement**

**INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CATHCART	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2308 proposed to direct the Department of Human Services to increase the reimbursement rate by 18% for speech and language pathologist services to match the recent increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates for speech and language centers.

**LD 2324                      Resolve, to Increase the Reimbursement Amount for Occupational and Physical Therapy Services Under the Medicaid Program                      INDEF PP**

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

LD 2324 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to adopt rules that would take effect on January 1, 2001 and that would increase the amount of reimbursement under the Medicaid program for occupational and physical therapy services to 50% of the usual and customary charge.

**LD 2358                      An Act to Ban Smoking in Enclosed Areas of Places Licensed for the Sale of Food or Alcohol                      ONTP**

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

This bill proposed to prohibit smoking in the enclosed areas of places licensed for the sale of food and alcohol under licenses issued to taverns and lounges while they are open for that purpose. Current law prohibits smoking in the enclosed areas of restaurants and most other places, but does not prohibit smoking in places that are licensed to serve food and alcohol under the license issued to taverns and lounges.

**LD 2360                      An Act to Provide Equitable Delivery of Mental Health Services                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE WHEELER G	ONTP	

LD 2360 proposed to provide equitable delivery of mental health services to all consumers in the State.

**LD 2368                      An Act to Promote Bone Marrow Donation                      INDEF PP**

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

LD 2368 proposed to create the Human Leukocyte Antigen Screening Fund to help cover the costs of screening and registration for bone marrow donors.