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

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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, <u>History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents</u>, 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 XXXCh	apter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House & Senate disagree; bill died
	ccepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
	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 LawChapter # of enacted Public Law
PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED	Bill held by GovernorLegislature failed to override Governor's Veto
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.

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

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
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

Sponsor(s) Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
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

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LAWRENCE	ONTP	
WHEELER G		

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

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
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.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-596) proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to retain the provisions of the bill that establish the Human Leukocyte Antigen Screening Fund, replace the provisions assessing a fee of 25ϕ per insured person on health insurance carriers and provide funding in the first year of \$250,000 from the Fund for a Healthy Maine and continuing funding through a voluntary income tax contribution checkoff created in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36. It proposed to add an allocation of the \$250,000, an appropriation section and to a fiscal note.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-695) proposed to strike the appropriation section for the administrative costs of the Bureau of Revenue Services within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services.

See Public Law 1999, chapter 731, Part SS.

LD 2374 Resolve, to Implement the Recommendations Contained in the Report Entitled "Women's Health: An Action Plan for Maine"

RESOLVE 129

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MITCHELL B	OTP-AM	S-585
KANE		S-749 MICHAUD

LD 2374 proposed to establish the Office of Women's Health in the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health, with resources and personnel also drawn from the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, to provide leadership and coordination in developing a comprehensive outlook on the overall health status of women.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-585) proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to establish the Office of Women's Health, within the Department of Human Services, to provide leadership in the field of health for women and girls and to improve their health status and their access to health services. The office would develop programs and services, make grants to nonprofit and community organizations for the purpose of improving women's health, coordinate women's health efforts and advise the Commissioner of Human Services and Commissioner of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services. The amendment also proposed to establish the Women's Health Advisory Committee to advise and assist the Director of the Office of Women's Health, to advocate on behalf of women and girls with respect to health and to gather and disseminate information and commission studies and publicize the results. The amendment proposed to appropriate \$408,057 for these purposes and to add a fiscal note.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-749) proposed to strike the committee amendment and provide one-time funds for the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health to contract with a nonprofit organization to implement the recommendations contained in the report entitled "Women's Health: An Action Plan for Maine," prepared by Medical Care Development, Inc. in July 1999.

See also LD 2495.

Enacted law summary		