

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Health and Human Services*

August 2001

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120th Legislature
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Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 2001

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 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*
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is **September 21, 2001**.

David E. Boulter, Director
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Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

See also LD 1024.

LD 219 **An Act to Expand the Cub Care Program and to Establish the Bear Care Program** **ONTP**

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

LD 219 proposed to establish the Bear Care program in the State by changing the name of the Medicaid program beginning July 1, 2002. It proposed to require materials and information about the Medicaid program for use by the public to display the name "Bear Care" beginning October 1, 2001. By January 15, 2002 the bill proposed to require the Department of Human Services to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services proposing legislation to accomplish the name change. It proposed to direct the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services to submit legislation to accomplish the name change by July 1, 2002. It proposed to require the Department of Human Services to file with the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Health Care Financing Administration all necessary amendments to the state Medicaid plan to change the name of the Medicaid program in the State to the "Bear Care program" for the purposes of service delivery and program administration by January 15, 2002.

LD 219 did not propose to alter the designation "Cub Care" for the program providing health care coverage for children under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-T. It proposed to increase, however, the income eligibility from 200% to 300% of the federal nonfarm income official poverty line and set the premiums for coverage for families with incomes above 185% of the nonfarm income official poverty line at 20% of the benefit cost per child, but no higher for a family than the cost for 2 children. This bill proposed to increase the income eligibility level for parents of children on the Medicaid program from 150% to 200% of the federal nonfarm income official poverty line.

See LD 1303, Public Law 2001, chapter 450 regarding renaming the Medicaid program and Cub Care program MaineCare.

LD 243 **An Act to Implement the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act of 2000** **DIED ON ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LOVETT MITCHELL B	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-516

LD 243 is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposed to implement the federal Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act of 2000.

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

Committee Amendment "A" (H-516) is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It proposed to direct the Department of Human Services to grant Medicaid eligibility to women who have been diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer under the State's early detection program. It proposed to appropriate state funds and allocate federal funds for these purposes. It proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

See Public Law 2001, chapter 439, Part TT.

LD 244 **An Act to Continue the Privacy Protection of Health Care Information** **PUBLIC 346**

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

LD 244 proposed to eliminate the sunset on the health care information privacy legislation adopted by the 119th Legislature.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 346 eliminates the sunset on the health care information privacy legislation adopted by the 119th Legislature.

LD 246 **An Act to Ensure Appropriate Audit Procedures** **PUBLIC 464**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAYO LONGLEY	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-664

LD 246 proposed to prohibit the Department of Human Services from proceeding with an audit initiative in which a private vendor is engaged or any vendor is paid on a contingent fee basis to pursue alleged overpayments to health care providers in Maine. Also, the bill proposed to require the department to disclose to the public any mathematical algorithm used in an audit.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-664) is the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It proposed to remove a retroactivity provision. It proposed to add an effective date of July 1, 2003. It proposed to also add a fiscal note to the bill.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-665) is the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It proposed to amend the bill by adding an appropriation section, an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary