

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Banking and Insurance*

August 2001

Members:

Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain III, Chair

Sen. I. Joel Abromson

Sen. Neria R. Douglass

Rep. Christopher P. O'Neil, Chair

Rep. Benjamin F. Dudley

Rep. Nancy B. Sullivan

Rep. Marilyn E. Canavan

Rep. Lisa T. Marrache

Rep. William J. Smith

Rep. Arthur F. Mayo III

Rep. Kevin J. Glynn

Rep. Florence T. Young

Rep. John M. Michael

Staff:

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**120th Legislature
First Regular Session**

**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
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

Joint Standing Committee on Banking and Insurance

LD 353

An Act to Permit Foster Parents to Purchase Group Health Insurance

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BOUCHER	OTP MAJ	H-644 O'NEIL
GAGNON	ONTP MIN	S-264 LAFOUNTAIN

LD 353 proposed to make foster parents belonging to a statewide organization specifically eligible for health insurance coverage on a group basis.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-264) proposed to make licensed foster parents currently caring for children whose care is reimbursed by the Department of Human Services eligible for coverage under the group health plan for State employees. The amendment required the foster parent to pay the full premium for coverage. The amendment also would clarify that a foster parent is eligible for coverage only during the periods in which the foster parent is caring for a child in that foster parent's home.

House Amendment "A" to Senate Amendment "A" (H-644) corrected the fiscal note for Senate Amendment "A."

LD 353 was placed on the Special Appropriations Table and died on adjournment. However, the substantive provisions of Senate Amendment "A", which would allow licensed foster parents to buy coverage under the group health plan for State employees, were enacted in the Part II budget, Public Law 2001, chapter 439, Part XX.

LD 354

An Act to Enhance the Integrity of Processing Insurance Claims Relating to Motor Vehicle Glass

ONTP

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

LD 354 proposed to allow insurers to use independent 3rd-party claims administrators or agents for auto glass claims, but prohibit the use of a 3rd-party administrator or agent affiliated with the glass industry.

LD 354 was not enacted, but the committee requested a study of the issues raised by the bill in Joint Study Order HP 1293. See summary of Joint Study Order HP 1293.