

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*

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Maine State Legislature
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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 392

An Act to Establish the Community Health Access Program

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM MAJ	H-670
	ONTP MIN	

LD 392 proposed to implement the recommendations of the Joint Select Committee to Study the Creation of a Public/Private Purchasing Alliance to Ensure Access to Health Care for All Maine Citizens. The bill would do the following.

1. It establishes the Community Health Access Program within the Department of Human Services. The bill allows the department to determine service areas throughout the State for the provision of comprehensive health care services through local community-based health plans. The community-based plans are managed by nonprofit community health plan corporations and governed by local boards. The program is primarily designed for individuals without health insurance and micro-employers with 4 or fewer employees.
2. It eliminates the requirement that a voluntary private purchasing alliance offer at least 3 different carriers through the alliance.
3. It directs the Department of Human Services to apply for a waiver from the Federal Government to establish a Medicaid "buy-in" program for individuals without health insurance coverage and small employers as a benefit to their employees.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-670) was the majority report of the committee and replaced the bill. The amendment proposed to establish the Community Health Access Program within the Department of Human Services. The amendment would allow the department to determine two service areas throughout the State for the provision of comprehensive health care services through local community-based health plans. The community-based health plans would be managed by nonprofit community health care corporations and governed by local boards. The program is primarily designed for individuals without health insurance and micro-employers with 4 employees or less.

The amendment removed the provisions of the bill that amended the laws governing private purchasing alliances and directed the Department of Human Services to apply for a Medicaid waiver to develop a Medicaid buy-in program because those provisions are included in other legislation.

The amendment also added an appropriation, an allocation and a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 392 was placed on the Special Appropriations Table in the Senate and died on adjournment. However, the substantive provisions of Committee Amendment "A" that would establish the Community Health Access Program within the Department of Human Services were enacted in the Part II budget, Public Law 2001, chapter 439, Part BBB with a delayed effective date of July 1, 2002.