

# 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**  
**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](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:

*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

**LD 689**

**An Act to Require Newborn Screening for Metabolic Abnormalities  
and Genetic or Biochemical Disorders**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> RICHARDSON	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 689 proposed to require that screening be conducted of all newborn infants by hospitals, maternity homes and other maternity services. The bill proposed to require the Department of Human Services to amend its rules relating to newborn screening for metabolic, genetic and biochemical conditions to expand the types of conditions for which newborns would be screened.

**LD 703**

**An Act to Require that a Residential Facility for the Elderly Have  
an Automatic Door at the Main Entrance**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BULL	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP      MAJ OTP      MIN	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 703 proposed to require automatic doors or power-assisted doors on the entrance to nursing homes and other residential facilities for new construction and major remodeling, enlarging and renovating on or after January 1, 2002.

**LD 716**

**An Act to Provide for the Transfer of Assets of Hospital  
Administrative District No. 1 to a Nonprofit, Nonstock Private  
Corporation**

**P & S 31  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CARR CATHCART	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-624
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LD 716 proposed to allow Hospital Administrative District No. 1, which operates Penobscot Valley Hospital, to convert by merger into a private nonprofit, nonstock corporation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-624)** proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to allow Hospital Administrative District No. 1, which operates Penobscot Valley Hospital, to transfer its assets to a nonprofit, nonstock private corporation. The transfer would relieve the current towns in the district from potential liabilities of the hospital and enable the hospital to improve its facilities to better serve the people located in its service area without any financial obligations for the towns formerly comprising the district. The amendment proposed to provide for the transfer process.