

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
120th Legislature*

*Second Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Health and Human Services*

*May 2002*

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**120th Legislature**  
**Second Regular Session**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**May 2002**

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 arranged alphabetically by committee name 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:

<i>CON RES XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i> .....	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i> .....	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i> .....	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i> .....	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i> .....	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i> .....	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i> .....	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i> .....	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i> .....	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP ND</i> .....	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>OTP ND/NT</i> .....	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i> .....	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i> .....	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> .....	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is July 25, 2002.

**Patrick T. Norton, Interim Director**  
**Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building**

## Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

**LD 961**                      **An Act to Expand Benefits Under the Elderly Low-cost Drug Program**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DUDLEY MARTIN		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-492
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LD 961 proposed to add depression and diabetic supplies to the basic component list of the elderly low-cost drug program.

**LD 1085**                      **Resolve, to Improve Staffing in Health Care Settings**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PENDLETON FULLER		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1085 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to amend its rules regarding the licensing of health care facilities, including, but not limited to, home care, acute care and long-term care settings; residential care facilities; hospitals; and other health care facilities to require staffing levels based on patient acuity level. The rules proposed to base appropriate staffing for licensing purposes on patient acuity level as determined by a professional nursing assessment done by a professional registered nurse of patient physical, behavioral and psycho-social status and need for health care. The bill proposed that the rules, which would be routine technical rules, be adopted by January 1, 2002.

**LD 1208**                      **An Act to Plan for the Delivery of Developmental Disabilities and Autism Services**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LONGLEY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1208 proposed to require the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to take the lead in planning for the development of comprehensive developmental disabilities and autism services for children and families. The bill proposed to require a planning process that involves state agencies, providers of services, professionals and children and families. The bill proposed to require a report by February 1, 2002 to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services that would include a plan for the development of services.