

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).

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 1651

An Act to Preserve Maine Pharmacies

**OTP-ND-NT
SEE LD 1816**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL B FULLER	OTP-ND-NT	

LD 1651 proposed to eliminate the pharmacy discounts in the Maine Rx program, increase the dispensing fee in the Medicaid program, include pharmacists as practitioners under the Maine Health Security Act and mandate a prescription drug identification card of health insurers that provide prescription benefits. This bill was reported Ought to Pass – New Draft and reprinted as LD 1816. LD 1816 proposed two study provisions – on pharmacists in the Maine Health Security Act and prescription drug identification cards.

LD 1685

Resolve, to Change Eligibility for Persons who Transfer Assets and Move into Assisted Living Facilities

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHIELDS TURNER	ONTP	

LD 1685 proposed to require the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Elder and Adult Services to adopt rules similar to those currently in place for persons institutionalized in nursing homes and seeking Medicaid assistance. In the determination of the level of state assistance, the rules would require the inclusion of any qualified assets, as determined by the bureau, transferred less than 36 months prior to moving to the assisted living facility; for irrevocable trusts, the look-back period would be 60 months.

LD 1687

An Act Regarding People with Disabilities and the Use of Service Animals

ONTP

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

LD 1687 proposed to provide that in order to qualify for the right to be accompanied by a guide or personal care animal, a person would need to possess written certification from a physician that that person needed the assistance of a guide or personal care animal and written certification from the person or organization that trained the guide or personal care animal used by that person that that animal was trained as a guide or personal care animal.