

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 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.

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:

- 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
PASSED..... Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 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 1768

An Act to Create a Comprehensive Prescription Insurance Plan for Maine Seniors through the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Heinz Family Philanthropies Report

ONTP

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

LD 1768 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposed to create a comprehensive prescription insurance plan for senior citizens of the State in accordance with the recommendations of the Heinz Family Philanthropies study regarding prescription drugs.

The plan would have included the following requirements:

1. All Maine citizens 62 years of age and older would be eligible;
2. The plan would be means tested. Premiums, copayments, deductibles and a catastrophic cap would all be tied to income levels and the consumer price index. Persons with the lowest income levels would also have the lowest catastrophic cap;
3. In determining the premiums, deductibles and catastrophic caps for married couples based on household income, a reduction would be given so that those couples are not penalized or disadvantaged;
4. A formulary based on incentives would be established with generic, preferred and nonpreferred drugs;
5. If a generic drug is available, a brand-name drug would be available only by paying the difference in cost between the generic and brand-name medication;
6. "Lifestyle" drugs would be excluded from the plan; and
7. The plan would sunset after 4 full fiscal years.

LD 1799

An Act to Strengthen the Certificate of Need Law

PUBLIC 664

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MICHAUD MH	OTP-AM MAJ	S-507
	ONTP MIN	S-573 DOUGLASS

LD 1799 proposed to repeal and replace the Maine Certificate of Need Act of 1978. This bill proposed to require that health prevention services be part of reviewable projects, clarify when certificate of need waivers can be granted, clarify the ability of the Department of Human Services to impose conditions on a certificate of need, change certain dates, eliminate the Certificate of Need Advisory Committee and authorize the commissioner to establish a new advisory committee.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-507) proposed to clarify language in the bill. It proposed to allow the Commissioner to hold a public hearing and to increase the monetary thresholds for certificates of need.