

# 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 1848**                      **An Act to Prohibit the Separation of a Husband and Wife Placed in State-funded Nursing Facilities**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 1848 proposed to prohibit a husband and wife placed into nursing facilities that receive funding from the State from being placed into separate nursing facilities unless they so wished. Under the bill, a facility that cannot admit the spouse of a resident would have been required to ensure placement together within 14 days.

**LD 1858**                      **Resolve, to Improve the Health of Maine Citizens Through Hepatitis C Prevention and Detection**                      **RESOLVE 88**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRUNO	OTP-AM	H-860

LD 1858 proposed to direct the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health to provide a media campaign to increase awareness of hepatitis C; access to laboratory testing for hepatitis C; education of medical and social service providers; epidemiological data collection; and coordination and evaluation of these initiatives. The implementation of these initiatives would be contingent on the receipt of federal funding or donations from private sources for these purposes.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-860)** proposed to add an appropriations and allocations section and a fiscal note to the resolve.

### *Enacted law summary*

Resolve 2001, chapter 88 directs the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health to provide a media campaign to increase awareness of hepatitis C; access to laboratory testing for hepatitis C; education of medical and social service providers; epidemiological data collection; and coordination and evaluation of these initiatives. The implementation of these initiatives is contingent on the receipt of federal funding or donations from private sources for these purposes.

**LD 1882**                      **Resolve, Directing the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services to Recommend a Name for the New Psychiatric Treatment Center Located in Augusta**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAGGETT O'BRIEN J	ONTP	

## Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

LD 1882 proposed to direct the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services to recommend a name for the new psychiatric treatment center located in Augusta. See LD 2158, enacted as Resolve 2001, chapter 79.

**LD 1891**                      **An Act Regarding Eligibility for Financing Through the Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority**                      **PUBLIC 609**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BENNETT		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-502
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LD 1891 bill proposed to require that the majority of the members of the governing board of an assisted living facility receiving bonds from the Maine Health and Higher Education Facilities Authority be residents or family members of residents in the program.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-502)** proposed to require unlicensed assisted living facilities to comply with the standardized contract and resident rights requirements applicable to licensed facilities.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 609 requires that unlicensed assisted living facilities that receive funding from the Maine Health and Higher Education Facilities Authority comply with the standardized contract and resident rights requirements applicable to licensed facilities.

**LD 1901**                      **Resolve, to Allow Persons with Disabilities to Purchase Coverage Under the Medicaid Program**                      **INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DOUGLASS SAXL		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM    MAJ ONTP        MIN		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1901 proposed to require the Department of Human Services to amend the rules allowing persons with disabilities to purchase coverage in the Medicaid program. The rules would maintain income eligibility limits while removing separate limits on earned and unearned income and would provide eligibility for employed persons who have a medically improved disability.

**LD 1913**                      **Resolve, to Implement the Recommendations of the Health Care Workforce Steering Committee**                      **RESOLVE 89**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAUD MH SAXL		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM    MAJ ONTP        MIN		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-454
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