MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib



Reproduced from electronic originals (may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

State Of Maine 120th Legislature

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

May 2002

<u>Members</u>:

Sen. Susan W. Longley, Chair Sen. Karl W. Turner Sen. John L. Martin

Rep. Thomas J. Kane, Chair Rep. Joseph E. Brooks Rep. Elaine Fuller Rep. Edward R. Dugay Rep. Benjamin F. Dudley Rep. Marie Laverriere-Boucher Rep. Glenys P. Lovett Rep. Thomas F. Shields Rep. Julie Ann O'Brien Rep. Robert W. Nutting

Staff:

Jane Orbeton, Senior Analyst Lisa Baldwin, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis 13 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333 (207) 287-1670

Maine State Legislature OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013 Telephone: (207) 287-1670 Fax: (207) 287-1275

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).

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	
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCEOne is	body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	
EMERGENCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASS	AGE Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE	
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	
OTP ND/NT	
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED	
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.

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

LD 1930

An Act to Ensure the Fair Collection of Overpayments

PUBLIC 551

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
SIMPSON	OTP-AM	H-884
LONGLEY		

LD 1930 proposed to prohibit the Department of Human Services from collecting overpayments accrued in public benefit programs from people who were minors in the household at the time that their parent or other caretaker received the overpayment.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-884) proposed to replace the bill. This bill proposed to prohibit, to the extent permitted by federal law, the Department of Human Services from collecting overpayments accrued in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program and the food stamp program from people who were minors in the household at the time that their parent or other caretaker received the overpayment.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 551 prohibits the Department of Human Services, to the extent permitted by federal law, from collecting overpayments accrued in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program and the food stamp program from people who were minors in the household at the time that their parent or other caretaker received the overpayment.

LD 1933

Resolve, Establishing the Blue Ribbon Commission to Address the Financing of Long-term Care

RESOLVE 114 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
KANE	OTP-AM	H-910
MARTIN		S-556 GOLDTHWAIT

LD 1933 proposed to establish a blue ribbon commission to investigate and analyze the future costs of providing long-term health care to elderly and disabled adults and recommend an integrated system of financing the projected costs of these services.

The commission would investigate all relevant questions bearing on this issue, including but not limited to the following:

- 1. Whether the financial risk associated with uncertain long-term health care costs should be shared through some type of public or private insurance system;
- 2. Whether individuals should be encouraged or required to begin saving for predictable long-term health care needs at earlier ages; and
- 3. Whether each generation of working adults should pay for the long-term care costs of their parents' and grandparents' generations.