

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 1963

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Eligibility for General Assistance

PUBLIC 571

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNCAN DAVIS P	OTP-AM	H-878

LD 1963 proposed to amend the definition of a "lump sum payment" governing eligibility for general assistance to be consistent with other portions of the law.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-878) proposed to modify the method of prorating lump sum income when determining general assistance eligibility. It also proposed to clarify that lump sum income is prorated even when it is received prior to the initial application and it permits initial applicants to receive general assistance in an emergency if the sole reason they were ineligible was due to the proration of a lump sum income. The amendment also proposed to direct the Department of Human Services to convene a group of interested parties to investigate the adequacy of the maximum levels of assistance in the general assistance program and report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 571 amends the definition of a "lump sum payment" governing eligibility for general assistance to be consistent with other portions of the law. It modifies the method of prorating lump sum income when determining general assistance eligibility. It also clarifies that lump sum income is prorated even when it is received prior to the initial application and it permits initial applicants to receive general assistance in an emergency if the sole reason they were ineligible was due to the proration of a lump sum income. It also directs the Department of Human Services to convene a group of interested parties to investigate the adequacy of the maximum levels of assistance in the general assistance program and report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters.

LD 1998

An Act to Establish the Asthma Prevention and Control Program in the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health

PUBLIC 555

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FULLER TURNER	OTP-AM	H-877

LD 1998 proposed to establish an asthma prevention and control program to provide leadership for and coordination of asthma prevention and intervention activities within the State. The program would be authorized to receive federal grant money and would consult with statewide organizations concerned with the treatment and prevention of asthma.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 555 establishes an asthma prevention and control program to provide leadership for and coordination of asthma prevention and intervention activities within the State. The program is authorized to receive