

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 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:

<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>OTP ND/NT</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i>	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

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

2. The definition of "children" in the laws governing nursery schools, which is based on the age of a child, is changed;
3. Provisions in the laws governing nursery schools regarding communicable diseases, ratios and administration of medications are removed; and
4. The definitions of "day care centers" and "nursery school" are changed.

LD 2029

An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Public Health

PUBLIC 574

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KANE EDMONDS	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-904
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LD 2029 proposed to make the following changes to the laws regarding public health.

1. It proposed to rename the burial-transit permit the "disposition of human remains permit" and make other minor changes to the burial permit laws.
2. It proposed to require residents of the State intending to be married to record notice of their intentions in the office of the clerk of the municipality in which at least one of them resides. It also proposed to remove a reference to "justice of the peace" from the list of persons authorized to solemnize marriages.
3. It proposed to rename the Office of Vital Statistics within the Department of Human Services the Office of Health Data and Program Management.
4. It proposed to require the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health to publish a state health plan biennially instead of annually.
5. It proposed to change a reference to a program for children who are crippled to a reference to a program for children who are disabled.
6. It proposed to repeal the Cancer Prevention and Control Advisory Committee and establish the Maine Cancer Registry Data Review Committee.
7. It proposed to amend the laws governing personal use regarding owner testing for radon.
8. It proposed to make changes to the laws governing public notification that must be given by a public water system to conform the requirements to federal regulation.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-904) proposed to add an option for handwritten information from the medical examiner and to clarify the language regarding the Cancer Registry Data Review Committee.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 574 makes the following changes to the laws regarding public health.

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

1. It renames the burial-transit permit the "disposition of human remains permit" and makes other minor changes to the burial permit laws.
2. It requires residents of the State intending to be married to record notice of their intentions in the office of the clerk of the municipality in which at least one of them resides. It also removes a reference to "justice of the peace" from the list of persons authorized to solemnize marriages.
3. It renames the Office of Vital Statistics within the Department of Human Services the Office of Health Data and Program Management.
4. It requires the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health to publish a state health plan biennially instead of annually.
5. It changes a reference to a program for children who are crippled to a reference to a program for children who are disabled.
6. It repeals the Cancer Prevention and Control Advisory Committee and establishes the Maine Cancer Registry Data Review Committee.
7. It amends the laws governing personal use regarding owner testing for radon.
8. It makes changes to the laws governing public notification that must be given by a public water system to conform the requirements to federal regulation.

LD 2038

An Act to Amend the Lead Poisoning Control Act

PUBLIC 683

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MATTHEWS EDMONDS	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-1007
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LD 2038 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposed to assist the Maine Lead Advisory Council in testing high-risk children for lead poisoning by utilizing information that has already been obtained by the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1007) proposed to replace the bill and its title. It proposed to require the Department of Human Services to distribute information on lead poisoning and to develop and distribute a lead poisoning risk assessment tool. It proposed to require primary health care providers for children to test for blood lead levels in all children one year of age and 2 years of age who are covered by the MaineCare program, which succeeded the Medicaid and Cub Care programs, and to test all children one year of age and 2 years of age unless, in the professional judgment of the attending physician, in conjunction with the use of the lead poisoning risk assessment tool, the child's level of risk does not warrant a blood lead level test. The amendment proposed to require the Department of Human Services to report by March 1, 2005 on the incidence of lead poisoning risk assessment and blood lead level testing. The amendment proposed to require the Department of Human Services to convene a task force of representatives of pertinent health care organizations to determine a standard lead poisoning risk assessment tool for use statewide, to help disseminate the assessment tool and information on lead poisoning