

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
121st Legislature*

*Second Regular Session and
Second Special Session*

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Health and Human Services*

May 2004

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Members:

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Sen. John L. Martin
Sen. Carol Weston*

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Maine State Legislature



*Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis
Office Of Fiscal And Program Review*

*121st Maine Legislature
Second Regular Session and
Second Special Session*

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint 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/billsumm.htm).

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
- 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 that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is April 30, 2004; and non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Special Session is July 30, 2004. Four bills (LD's 1572, 1629, 1636 and 1637) that were considered at the First Special Session in August 2003 are also included in these summaries.

David C. Elliott, Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

of the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency is authorized to accept funding from private sources to carry out the purposes of the program. The law prohibits the use of public funding for the program or for the Maine Drug Return Implementation Group.

The law allows the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency to randomly assess materials received under the program. The law deems return of pharmaceuticals under the program to be for law enforcement purposes. The law establishes the Maine Drug Return Implementation Group to study and make recommendations on implementation of the program and provides for membership of the implementation group. The law authorizes the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters to report out legislation to the First Regular Session of the 122nd Legislature. The law takes effect on July 1, 2005.

LD 1829

An Act To Amend the Membership of the Children's Cabinet

PUBLIC 576

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KANE BRENNAN	OTP	

LD 1829 proposed to expand the Children's Cabinet to include the Commissioner of Labor and, at the discretion of the Governor, a member of the public appointed by the Governor.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2003, chapter 576 expands the Children's Cabinet to include the Commissioner of Labor and, at the discretion of the Governor, a member of the public appointed by the Governor.

LD 1830

**Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 16:
Foster Home Licensing Rule Regarding Smoking by Foster Parents,
a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Human Services**

RESOLVE 134

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-798 S-493 BRENNAN

LD 1830 proposed to provide for legislative review of Portions of Chapter 16: Foster Home Licensing Rule Regarding Smoking by Foster Parents, a major substantive rule of the Department of Human Services.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-798) proposed to change the 24-hour time periods in the provisionally adopted rule to 12-hour time periods.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-493) proposed to remove the emergency preamble and clause.

Enacted Law Summary

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

Resolve 2003, chapter 134 completes the legislative review of portions of Chapter 16: Foster Home Licensing Rule Regarding Smoking by Foster Parents, a major substantive rule of the Department of Human Services.

This resolve requires the 24-hour time periods in the provisionally adopted rule be changed to 12-hour time periods prior to final adoption.

LD 1867 **Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 97, Private Non-medical Institution Services, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Human Services** **RESOLVE 135 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
		OTP-AM		H-882

LD 1867 proposed to provide for legislative review of Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 97, Private Non-medical Institution Services, a major substantive rule of the Department of Human Services.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-882) proposed to approve the major substantive rules submitted regarding MaineCare rates for private nonmedical institutions provided those rules are amended to use a 25-cent per resident per day rate reduction in the facility-specific routine component of the room-and-board portion of the payment in place of the reduced reimbursement, based on application of a bed-hold day decrease, that had been proposed. The amendment proposed to require wording used to refer to reimbursement related to foreign exchange fellows of professional exchange programs for social workers to be changed: "stipend" must be changed to "contract fee."

The amendment proposed to require the Department of Human Services to adopt emergency rules to implement the rules as approved by the Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2003, chapter 135 completes the legislative review of Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 97, Private Non-medical Institution Services, a major substantive rule of the Department of Human Services.

This resolve approves the major substantive rules submitted regarding MaineCare rates for private nonmedical institutions provided those rules are amended to use a 25-cent per resident per day rate reduction in the facility-specific routine component of the room-and-board portion of the payment in place of the reduced reimbursement, based on application of a bed-hold day decrease, that had been proposed. The resolve requires wording used to refer to reimbursement related to foreign exchange fellows of professional exchange programs for social workers to be changed: "stipend" is changed to "contract fee."