

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

*First Regular Session and
First Special Session*

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Insurance and Financial Services*

August 2005

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Maine State Legislature

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122nd Legislature
First Regular Session and First Special Session

Summary of Legislation Considered by the Joint Standing Committees
August 2005

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 organized by committees 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. A subject index for each committee is included immediately before the bill summaries for that committee, and a numerical index by LD number is included 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:

- CARRIED OVER Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session
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
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 29, 2005; and for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session is September 17, 2005.

Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services

LD 32

Resolve, To Reestablish the Health Care System and Health Security Board

RESOLVE 119

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM MAJ	H-513
	OTP-AM MIN	S-380 GAGNON
		S-405 MAYO

LD 32, a resolve, proposed to reestablish the Health Care System and Health Security Board, which was originally established in Public Law 2001, chapter 439, through the next biennium of the Legislature. The bill would require that the board submit a final report by November 1, 2006 to the 122nd Legislature. The bill proposed to allow those members serving on the board as of November 1, 2004 to continue as members and it also preserves any unexpended funds allocated to the board for use to pay future expenses.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-513) is the majority report of the committee. The amendment proposed to retain the provision of the resolve that reestablishes the Health Care System and Health Care Security Board but would limit the scope, funding and timeline of the reestablished board relative to the provisions of the resolve. The amendment proposed to limit the work of the reestablished board to finalizing recommendations regarding the feasibility of a single-payor health plan and limit funding to the unexpended funds allocated to the board as of November 1, 2004. The amendment also sets the report deadline as January 4, 2006, compared with November 1, 2006 in the resolve. Finally, the amendment would prohibit the board from seeking an extension from the Legislative Council beyond January 4, 2006 and from taking any further action after that date unless authorized by law.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-514) is the minority report of the committee. The amendment proposed to require that the Executive Director of the Legislative Council redistribute the unexpended funds of the Health Care System and Health Care Security Board to the individuals and organizations that contributed funds to support the board. The amendment would require the executive director to issue a refund to each contributor that is proportional to the contributor's share of the total budget of the board, except that if the calculated refund is less than \$1 no refund is required. Committee Amendment "B" was not adopted.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-380) proposed to bring the resolve into conformity with the Standards for Legislative Studies adopted by the Legislative Council and the Joint Rules.

Senate Amendment "C" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-405) proposed to remove the emergency preamble and emergency clause.

Senate Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-404) proposed to remove the emergency preamble and emergency clause. Senate Amendment "B" was not adopted.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2005, chapter 119 reestablishes the Health Care System and Health Security Board so that the Board may finalize recommendations regarding the feasibility of a single-payor health plan. The resolve requires the Board to submit its report by December 7, 2005.