

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
122nd Legislature*

*Second Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Health and Human Services*

*July 2006*

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# Maine State Legislature



## Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Office of Fiscal and Program Review

### 122nd Maine Legislature Second Regular 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 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](http://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 (Pocket Veto).....	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 August 23, 2006.

*Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services*

**LD 1980**

**Resolve, To Provide Influenza Immunization Agents to All Health Care Facilities in the State**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
MARRACHE

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1980 proposed to direct the Department of Health and Human Services to provide the influenza vaccine from its current supply to all health care facilities and health care practitioners in the state that did not receive the vaccine, review the ordering/distribution system for influenza vaccines and to devise a plan so that all health care practitioners and facilities in the state received the vaccines in timely manner for the next flu season. It also proposed to direct the department to include a system for providing sufficient antiviral medication in the event of a flu pandemic in the plan.

See Public Law 2005, chapter 670.

**LD 1982**

**Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 270: Uniform Reporting System for Health Care Quality Data Sets, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization**

**RESOLVE 165  
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
H-881

LD 1982 proposed to provide for legislative review of portions of Chapter 270: Uniform Reporting System for Health Care Quality Data Sets, a major substantive rule of the Maine Health Data Organization. The rule changes would be related to quality metrics for healthcare associated infections and would require hospitals to report specific data related to these metrics.

**Committee Amendment “A” (H-881)** proposed to change the resolve by making the approval of the rules contingent upon the removal of 2 healthcare associated infection (HAI) quality metrics in the section of the rule designated section 3 (B).

*Enacted law summary*

Resolve 2005, chapter 165 authorizes final adoption of portions of Chapter 270: Uniform Reporting System for Health Care Quality Data Sets, a major substantive rule of the Maine Health Data Organization. The rule change establishes quality metrics for healthcare associated infections and requires hospitals to report specific data related to these metrics.

Resolve 2005, chapter 165 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 4, 2006.