

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

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STATE OF MAINE

123RD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter 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 (or Accepted ONTP report).....	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 non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

LD 71

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Plea of Not Criminally Responsible by Reason of Insanity in Juvenile Cases

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)

SYKES

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

H-248

This bill details the procedure by which a juvenile is ordered committed after being found not criminally responsible by reason of mental disease or defect. The Juvenile Court shall order the juvenile committed to the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services to be placed in an appropriate facility, and 6 months prior to the juvenile's 18th birthday a report must be issued by the State Forensic Service reviewing the appropriateness of continued institutionalization or release. A committed juvenile will still attend appropriate schools and job skills training. The treatment for a committed juvenile includes rehabilitation, mental health counseling and medication management and family counseling. An annual review must be conducted for a committed juvenile, and the court may order the juvenile to remain committed or released upon conditions if the court finds that the juvenile is no longer a threat to the juvenile or to others.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-248)

This amendment replaces the bill and does the following.

1. It clarifies definitions of the juvenile defense of not criminally responsible by reason of insanity by making language consistent with the defense as it applies to adult criminal matters.
2. It creates procedures similar to those that exist for adults found not criminally responsible by reason of insanity for the review by the juvenile court of a juvenile's placement, transfer, release and discharge from the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services.
3. It specifies that subsequent hearings for juveniles found not criminally responsible by reason of insanity may not be open to the public.
4. It provides a mechanism for notice to the victim when a juvenile is released from secure treatment.
5. It allocates the procedures governing findings and hearings related to juveniles found not criminally responsible by reason of insanity to the sequence of sections in the Maine Juvenile Code governing adjudicatory hearings, findings and adjudication, thereby clarifying that a finding of not criminally responsible by reason of insanity precludes adjudication of a juvenile crime.
6. It provides procedures by which a juvenile may enter an answer of not criminally responsible by reason of insanity alone or coupled with a denial of the charges.
7. It provides authority to the juvenile court to order a diagnostic evaluation of a juvenile who enters an answer of not criminally responsible by reason of insanity alone or coupled with a denial of the charges.
8. It provides that copies of treatment plans, reports and petitions must be distributed to all parties, including the juvenile and the juvenile's parents, guardian or legal custodian if the juvenile has any.

LD 71 was carried over by joint order, H.P. 1369 after being removed from the Special Appropriations Table and recommitted to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.