

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 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

July 2007

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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 Health and Human Services

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

The purpose of this bill is to address the funding needs for the provision of air and ground emergency medical services in the State to provide for reimbursement of services provided by emergency and critical care emergency medical service providers.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-249)

This amendment replaces the concept draft with a resolve. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services, if outside funding is obtained, to convene a working group to review the costs and revenues and growing gap between costs and revenues of providers of air and ground emergency and critical care emergency medical services. The department is required to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, which is authorized to submit legislation.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 140 directs the Department of Health and Human Services, if outside funding is obtained, to convene a working group to review the costs and revenues and growing gap between costs and revenues of providers of air and ground emergency and critical care emergency medical services. The department is required to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, which is authorized to submit legislation.

See also the biennial budget, Public Law 2007, chapter 240, page 722 for a contingent appropriation of \$200,000 in Fiscal Year 2008.

LD 980 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Burial or Cremation of Certain Persons

PUBLIC 411

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CROSTHWAITE	OTP-AM	H-366

This bill removes siblings from the list of relatives who are responsible for the burial or cremation costs for a person who was eligible to receive municipal general assistance at the time of that person's death.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-366)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 411 removes siblings from the list of relatives who are responsible for the burial or cremation costs for a person who was eligible to receive municipal general assistance at the time of that person's death.

LD 981 An Act Concerning the Supervision of Nursing Support Staff

PUBLIC 197

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERRY A	OTP	

This bill allows a certified nurse practitioner to delegate certain activities relating to advanced practice registered nursing to employees or support staff when those activities are carried out by custom and usage and are under the

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

control of the certified nurse practitioner, who is legally liable for their activities.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 197 allows a certified nurse practitioner to delegate certain activities relating to advanced practice registered nursing to employees or support staff when those activities are carried out by custom and usage and are under the control of the certified nurse practitioner, who is legally liable for their activities.

LD 984 **Resolve, To Evaluate MaineCare Finances**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOODBURY	ONTP	

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to provide funds to the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability to commission a study to analyze MaineCare's finances through a subcontract with an independent analyst that has no direct connection to State Government.

LD 987 **An Act To Provide Gambling Addiction Counseling Services through the Office of Substance Abuse**

**PUBLIC 116
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERRY A	OTP-AM	H-110

This bill gives the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Substance Abuse the authority to establish standards governing the provision of gambling addiction counseling services, as well as to administer contracts with community service providers who meet those standards and are funded with money administered by the office.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-110)

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 116 gives the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Substance Abuse the authority to establish standards governing the provision of gambling addiction counseling services, as well as to administer contracts with community service providers who meet those standards and are funded with money administered by the office.

Public Law 2007, chapter 116 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 14, 2007.

LD 990 **An Act To Assist Children Who Are Not Receiving Court-ordered Child Support Payments**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRESSEY	ONTP	

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to exclude unpaid court-ordered child support payments from the calculation of income in determining eligibility for public assistance.