

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
123<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

July 2007

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# STATE OF MAINE

123<sup>RD</sup> 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 123<sup>rd</sup> 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 resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to implement a system to pay all hospital MaineCare reimbursements based on the diagnosis-related group, or DRG, method that is used by the federal Medicare system.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-250)**

This amendment replaces the resolve. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services, with the Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service, to proceed with its review of the possibility of basing hospital reimbursement under MaineCare on a methodology derived from the federal diagnosis-related group method. The amendment requires a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and authorizes the committee to submit legislation.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2007, chapter 48 directs the Department of Health and Human Services, with the Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service, to proceed with its review of the possibility of basing hospital reimbursement under MaineCare on a methodology derived from the federal diagnosis-related group method. The resolve requires a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and authorizes the committee to submit legislation.

### **LD 1137 An Act To Provide Payment for Homeless Respite Care Services through the MaineCare Program**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)

DUNN

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

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

This bill proposes to have the MaineCare program pay for homeless respite care services.

### **LD 1142 An Act To Enhance the Newborn Hearing Program**

**PUBLIC 236**

Sponsor(s)

MAKAS

Committee Report

OTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to collect data necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of services provided to newborns and children up to 3 years of age, including all screening, evaluation and diagnoses made for such children with, or at risk of, hearing loss. The bill also makes uniform the references to newborn infants and children up to 3 years of age.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2007, chapter 236 authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to collect data necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of services provided to newborns and children up to 3 years of age, including all screening, evaluation and diagnoses made for such children with, or at risk of, hearing loss.