

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature coming from the

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

July 2009

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**STAFF:**

JANE ORBETON, SENIOR ANALYST  
ELIZABETH COOPER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670

# STATE OF MAINE

124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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## 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 124<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

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:

CARRIED OVER.....	Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
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; bill died
ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died
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

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Legislature is September 12, 2009. 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

**LD 101**

## **An Act To Extend the Operation of the Maine Health Data Processing Center and To Amend the Maine Health Data Organization Statutes**

**PUBLIC 71  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERRY A MARRACHE	OTP-AM	H-55

This bill extends the operation of the Maine Health Data Processing Center to September 1, 2015 and increases the length of time individuals may serve on the centers board of directors. This bill also repeals the requirement for hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to maintain lists of average charges for procedures specified by the Maine Health Data Organization through rulemaking. In place of the lists, individual hospitals and surgical centers shall, upon request from an individual, provide the charge for any service rendered by the facility. In addition, the bill requires the Maine Health Data Organization to create an interactive website displaying prices paid for specific procedures performed at all Maine hospitals and impacted surgical, diagnostic or other nonhospital facilities. Additionally, this bill makes some minor modifications to definitions in the statutes governing the Maine Health Data Organization and adds a representative from the Bureau of Insurance to the Maine Health Data Organization board of directors.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-55)**

This amendment changes the bill by allowing hospitals or ambulatory surgical centers to provide average charges rather than exact charges for inpatient and outpatient services to individuals upon request. It adds the Executive Director of Dirigo Health or a designee to the Maine Health Data Organization board of directors. It removes the requirement that the Superintendent of Insurance appoint an employee of the Bureau of Insurance as a member to the board and adds the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation or a designee, serving in a nonvoting capacity. It adds language to specify that the total number of board members includes one nonvoting member and to reflect the fact that there are representatives of state agencies in addition to the Department of Health and Human Services now serving on the board.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2009, chapter 71 extends the operation of the Maine Health Data Processing Center to September 1, 2015 and increases the length of time individuals may serve on the center's board of directors. It also repeals the requirement for hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to maintain lists of average charges for procedures specified by the Maine Health Data Organization. In place of the lists, individual hospitals and surgical centers shall, upon request from an individual, provide the average charge for any service rendered by the facility. In addition, the law requires the Maine Health Data Organization to create an interactive website displaying prices paid for specific procedures performed at all Maine hospitals and impacted surgical, diagnostic or other nonhospital facilities. It makes some minor modifications to definitions in the statutes governing the Maine Health Data Organization. The law also replaces an employee of the Department of Health and Human Services with the Executive Director of Dirigo Health as a voting member on the Maine Health Data Organization board of directors and adds the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to the board in a nonvoting, consultative capacity.

Public Law 2009, chapter 71 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 4, 2009.