

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
124TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

July 2009

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STATE OF MAINE

124TH 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 124th 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:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed; bill died</i>
<i>ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report)</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124th 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 163

An Act To Require Health Care Practitioners To Distribute Free Samples of Medications in Certain Circumstances

ONTP

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

This bill requires health care practitioners to distribute free samples of medications to patients in order to test the reaction of the patient to the medication and the effectiveness of the medication in the treatment of the disease or condition. The requirement to distribute free samples depends on availability, appropriateness and timeliness.

LD 217

Resolve, To Increase Transparency in the Long-term Care Planning and Delivery Process To Ensure Maine's Elderly Can Make Informed Choices

ONTP

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

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend the rules relating to the transition process for nursing facility patients admitted to hospitals awaiting transition into residential care and improving the hospital discharge planning process. The resolve also directs the Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Elder and Adult Services to convene a working group with representatives of the Long-term Care Ombudsman, hospitals, nursing facilities and residential care facilities to find ways to improve the transparency and coordination of services in the hospital and long-term care facility discharge planning process, with the goal of providing patients and their families with a more coordinated, efficient and patient-friendly process that meets the specific needs of individual patients, including behavioral health needs. It also authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

LD 228

An Act To Prevent Teenage Substance Abuse and Suicide

ONTP

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

This bill provides funds to prevent and reduce substance abuse and suicide in children in the State by providing Fund for a Healthy Maine allocations of \$60,000 per year for the Maine chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness to support the TeenScreen and Up and Running ME programs.