

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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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

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:

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 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 1069

Resolve, To Direct the Maine Children's Growth Council To Study the Connections between Higher Education and Early Childhood Education

RESOLVE 77

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'BRIEN ALFOND	OTP-AM	H-221 S-169 ALFOND

This resolve directs the Maine Children's Growth Council to convene a working group to make recommendations for creating opportunities for higher education for licensed child care providers. The resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education to participate in the working group. The resolve requires the council to invite representatives from public universities, community colleges and child care providers to participate in the working group. It requires the working group to make recommendations for creating a partnership between licensed child care providers and state institutions of higher learning that would allow child care providers to enroll in classes and degree programs at reduced tuition rates in exchange for reserving a certain number of child care slots for the institution's students and faculty, which would be paid for at a reduced rate subsidized by the State. It requires the working group to provide a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services with findings and recommendations, including any draft legislation necessary, no later than January 15, 2010 and authorizes the committee to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-221)

This amendment replaces the resolve and directs the Maine Children's Growth Council to convene a working group to make recommendations for strengthening the reciprocal relationship between the State's early childhood education system and the State's higher education system. The resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education to participate in the working group as well as representatives from public universities, community colleges, child care providers, Head Start and other stakeholders invited by the council. It requires the working group to make recommendations for creating a partnership between child care providers and state institutions of higher learning that will allow for ongoing communications about the health and needs of the State's early childhood education and higher education systems. It requires the working group to provide a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services with findings and recommendations, including any draft legislation necessary, no later than January 15, 2010. It authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-169)

This amendment amends the committee amendment to direct the working group to review the extent to which the use of "professional judgment" (terminology used related to the federal law and regulations for granting student aid) provides additional opportunity to increase access to child care for students in need. The amendment also directs the working group to consult with the Maine Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators to review the current practice of financial aid officers in administering the professional judgment provisions.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2009, chapter 77 directs the Maine Children's Growth Council to convene a working group to make recommendations for strengthening the reciprocal relationship between the State's early childhood education system and the State's higher education system. The resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education to participate in the working group as well as representatives from public universities, community colleges, child care providers, Head Start and other stakeholders the council identifies. It requires the working group to make recommendations for creating a partnership between child care providers and state

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

institutions of higher learning that will allow for ongoing communications about the health and needs of the State's early childhood education and higher education systems. It directs the working group to review the extent to which the use of "professional judgment" (terminology used related to the federal law and regulations for granting student aid) provides additional opportunity to increase access to child care for students in need. It also directs the working group to consult with the Maine Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators to review the current practice of financial aid officers in administering the professional judgment provisions. It requires the working group to provide a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services with findings and recommendations, including any draft legislation necessary, no later than January 15, 2010 and authorizes the Committee to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

LD 1070 *Resolve, Directing the University of Maine at Orono To Conduct a Pilot Project Regarding the Benefits of Medical Marijuana*

ONTP

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

This resolve directs the University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture and the University of Maine School of Nursing to collaborate in a project to grow and dispense medical marijuana to authorized individuals and to study pain reduction and other beneficial effects of marijuana. The resolve also directs any revenue from the sale of marijuana to the University of Maine at Orono to support the expenses of the pilot project.

LD 1071 *An Act To Add a Member to the Advisory Council on Health Systems Development*

PUBLIC 179

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BOLAND HOBBINS	OTP-AM	H-204

This bill adds an individual with expertise in the discipline of food science to the membership of the Advisory Council on Health Systems Development.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-204)

The amendment changes the member added to the Advisory Council on Health Systems Development from one with expertise in the discipline of food science to one with expertise in health disparities and who also represents the State's racial and ethnic minority communities.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 179 adds one member to the Advisory Council on Health Systems Development from who has expertise in health disparities and who also represents the State's racial and ethnic minority communities.