

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 INSURANCE AND
FINANCIAL SERVICES**

July 2009

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STATE OF MAINE

124TH 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 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 Insurance and Financial Services

LD 1083 An Act Regarding the Payment of Medicare Part B Premiums for Employees Eligible for Medicare

PUBLIC 456

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS P	OTP-AM	S-217

This bill requires the State to pay 100% of the premiums for Medicare Parts B and D for retirees eligible for coverage under the State's group health plan. The bill also requires that the standard health plan offered to eligible retirees must be a companion plan to Medicare coverage.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-217)

The amendment replaces the bill. The amendment requires the State to pay 100% of an active employee's premiums for Medicare Part B if an active employee eligible for Medicare elects to enroll in Medicare. The amendment requires the State to continue to pay the Medicare Part B premiums until the employee enrolls as an eligible retiree.

Public Law 2009, chapter 456 requires the State to pay 100% of an active employee's premiums for Medicare Part B if an active employee eligible for Medicare elects to enroll in Medicare. The law requires the State to continue to pay the Medicare Part B premiums until the employee enrolls as an eligible retiree.

LD 1084 Resolve, To Improve Continuity of Coverage for Participants in Medicare Advantage Plans

RESOLVE 59

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS P	OTP-AM	S-94

This resolve allows a Medicare participant who enrolls in Medicare Part B and elects to enroll in a standardized Medicare supplement plan and subsequently enrolls in a Medicare Advantage plan to maintain continuity in coverage if the member returns to a standardized Medicare supplement plan, if the standardized Medicare supplement plan provides no greater benefits than the Medicare Advantage plan.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-94)

This amendment replaces the resolve. The amendment requires the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance to amend its rules to extend from one year to 3 years the period during which a Medicare beneficiary who is enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan may return to original Medicare and enroll in a standardized Medicare supplement plan.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2009, chapter 59 requires the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance to amend its rules to extend from one year to 3 years the period during which a Medicare beneficiary who is enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan may return to original Medicare and enroll in a standardized Medicare supplement plan.