

# 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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# 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*

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 124th Legislature by Joint Order, H. P. 1053.

**LD 1263    An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning Child Abuse and Neglect Councils**

**PUBLIC 204**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EATON DAMON	OTP-AM	H-260

This bill adds the word "prevention" when referring to child abuse and neglect councils in the State and changes the name of the Maine Association of Child Abuse and Neglect Councils to the Maine Child Abuse Prevention Councils. It clarifies that child abuse and neglect prevention councils are to prevent abuse and neglect through the provision of family-strengthening programs, including, but not limited to, public awareness activities, child safety education, parent education, support and information for parents, training for professionals and referral to services.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-260)**

This amendment removes the requirement for the Maine Child Abuse Prevention Councils to advise the Department of Health and Human Services on the distribution of grants or funds before grants or funds are awarded.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2009, chapter 204 adds the word "prevention" when referring to child abuse and neglect councils in the State and changes the name of the Maine Association of Child Abuse and Neglect Councils to the Maine Child Abuse Prevention Councils. It clarifies that child abuse and neglect prevention councils are to prevent abuse and neglect through the provision of family-strengthening programs, including, but not limited to, public awareness activities, child safety education, parent education, support and information for parents, training for professionals and referral to services. It removes the requirement for the Maine Child Abuse Prevention Councils to advise the Department of Health and Human Services on the distribution of grants or funds before grants or funds are awarded.

**LD 1276    An Act To Ensure That High-quality Services Are Provided to Behavioral Health Clients**

**ONTP**

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

This bill requires a private behavioral health care practitioner who contracts with or is reimbursed by the Department of Health and Human Services for providing services to a client to be affiliated with a nationally accredited organization that provides oversight of the practitioner and sets standards for best practices and quality assurance, including standards governing crisis services and provision of coverage when a practitioner is unavailable or, if the private behavioral health care practitioner is not so affiliated, to meet these same standards.