

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

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

July 2011

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND  
ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 125<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD 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 LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

*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; legislation died  
*DIED BETWEEN HOUSES*..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died  
*DIED IN CONCURRENCE*..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died  
*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died  
*EMERGENCY*..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment  
*FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE* ..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote  
*FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... failed to receive final majority vote  
*FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT* ..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote  
*HELD BY GOVERNOR*..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session  
*LEAVE TO WITHDRAW*..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY* ..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died  
*INDEF PP*..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died  
*ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X*... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died  
*P&S XXX*..... chapter # of enacted private & special law  
*PUBLIC XXX*..... chapter # of enacted public Law  
*RESOLVE XXX*..... chapter # of finally passed resolve  
*VETO SUSTAINED*..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 125<sup>th</sup> Legislature is September 28, 2011. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

*Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services*

3. To permit nursing facilities to satisfy MaineCare neutrality requirements for projects that do not involve relocation of beds from one facility to another or a new facility when the entity proposing the changes is able to satisfy MaineCare neutrality requirements by delicensing beds under common ownership or acquiring beds from other facilities including residential care facilities; and

4. To permit approval of nursing facility projects that propose transfers of ownership when any increases in MaineCare costs are offset by transfers of bed rights or the increase in MaineCare costs is limited to changes in fixed-cost reimbursement due to changes in approved financing or applicable depreciation schedules.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-646)**

This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and adds an appropriations and allocations section.

See related provision in LD 360.

**LD 828**      **An Act To Amend the Maine Certificate of Need Act of 2002 for Nursing Facility Projects**      **ONTP**

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

This bill amends the Certificate of Need Act of 2002 as it affects nursing facility projects in several respects.

1. It increases the review threshold for nursing facility projects from \$1,000,000 to \$2,500,000 and restores an inflation adjustment factor.
2. It repeals the nursing facility MaineCare funding pool.
3. It removes the so-called MaineCare budget neutrality requirement.
4. It makes nursing facility projects subject to all certificate of need approval criteria and requirements.
5. It retains provisions of existing law that permit expedited approval of certain nursing facility projects.
6. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to complete the review process for a project application for a certificate of need in a timely fashion. When a decision has not been issued within 150 days after the department declares an application complete, the application is automatically approved.

See related provision in LD 360.