

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
125TH 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 125th 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 125th 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

Resolve 2011, chapter 77 directs the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a plan for the full use of federal, private and special revenue funds for home visitation programs or services, with an emphasis on serving infants who are in families in at-risk communities due to physical, emotional, developmental or environmental factors, and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. The resolve authorizes the committee to report out a bill in 2012 on the department's progress in ensuring improved health outcomes, reduced costs to taxpayers and enhanced future productivity through these efforts.

LD 1511 An Act To Impose a Lifetime Maximum on the Receipt of Welfare Benefits INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GUERIN	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	

This bill reforms the welfare system in Maine by:

1. Limiting the total time a person may receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or TANF, assistance to a lifetime maximum of 60 months as an adult, except for emergency situations; and
2. Limiting the total time a person may receive municipal general assistance to a lifetime maximum of 24 months, except in limited circumstances.

The changes take effect January 1, 2012. See related provisions in Public Law 2011, chapter 380, Part PP.

LD 1520 An Act To Improve MaineCare and Promote Employment MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BARTLETT	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

The bill allows people who have received Medicaid for their children for the past 3 months whose income exceeds limits pursuant to Title 22, section 3174-G, subsection 1, paragraph E-1 to purchase coverage for up to 18 months at premiums not to exceed those under the Katie Beckett program and limits contributions toward administrative costs to the maximum amount allowed under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985. The bill makes working disabled persons with unearned income that is equal to or below 150 percent of the nonfarm income official poverty line and with a combined total earned and unearned income that does not exceed 250 percent of the nonfarm income official poverty line eligible for Medicaid. It makes adults who are 19 or 20 years of age when the household income is equal to or below 200 percent of the nonfarm income official poverty line eligible for Medicaid.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-303)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and adds an appropriations and allocations section.