

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
126<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 2013

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# STATE OF MAINE

126<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* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 126<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 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature is October 9, 2013. 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*

required from six to nine months and, for families whose ineligibility is due to increased child support, extends the period of eligibility for transitional Medicaid from four to six months.

2. For families that lose eligibility for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families due to employment, it expands transitional transportation benefits from 12 to 18 months.

3. For families that lose eligibility for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families due to increased earnings or increased hours of work, it expands financial eligibility for transitional child care services from 250% to 300% of the federal poverty guidelines.

4. For certain working families that receive supplemental nutrition assistance, it expands transitional food assistance from \$50 per month to \$75 per month.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-69)**

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment allows the Department of Health and Human Services to make transitional transportation benefits available to families in which one or both adults are working and who, although they remain financially eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families benefits, request that their benefits be terminated. The amendment directs the department to adopt rules on transitional transportation assistance for families who lose eligibility for benefits under the TANF program due to increased employment income. The amended rules must allow those families up to one year after termination from TANF assistance to apply for transitional transportation assistance. The rules are designated as routine technical rules.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 97 allows the Department of Health and Human Services to make transitional transportation benefits available to families in which one or both adults are working and who, although they remain financially eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families benefits, request that their benefits be terminated. The law directs the department to adopt rules on transitional transportation assistance for families who lose eligibility for benefits under the TANF program due to increased employment income. The amended rules must allow those families up to one year after termination from TANF assistance to apply for transitional transportation assistance. The rules are designated as routine technical rules.

**LD 87**

### **An Act To Improve Community Mental Health Treatment**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAVEN FARNSWORTH	OTP-AM ONTP	

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop programs to provide services and housing to persons with chronic mental illness. The programs must be designed to ensure psychiatric rehabilitation and to improve the rehabilitation and recovery of persons with chronic mental illness. The programs must provide medically necessary health and mental health services to persons with chronic mental illness in the least restrictive setting that is consistent with the person's choice and individual treatment plan and within the person's chosen community and provide housing options to persons with chronic mental illness including a person's home or group residential setting or another configuration according to the person's choice.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (S-33)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment replaces the term "psychiatric rehabilitation" with "rehabilitation and recovery." The amendment adds to the law amended in the bill, which is a general policy statement, language regarding the Department of Health and Human Services providing services that are appropriate to a person's needs, consistent with a person's choices and geographically accessible. The

*Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services*

amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

**LD 88 An Act To Update the Maine HIV Advisory Committee**

**PUBLIC 108**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAVEN FARNSWORTH	OTP-AM ONTP	S-32

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to review and update the structure and duties of the Maine HIV Advisory Committee, as established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 42 and detailed in Title 5, section 19202.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-32)**

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. It changes the deadline for the annual report of the Maine HIV Advisory Committee from January 31st to March 1st. The amendment changes the membership on the Maine HIV Advisory Committee so that it includes two Legislators, five representatives of state agencies, four persons living with HIV/AIDS, two representatives of populations most affected by HIV/AIDS in the State, two providers of HIV-related services, two representatives of the public health community and two additional members chosen by the membership.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 108 changes the deadline for the annual report of the Maine HIV Advisory Committee from January 31st to March 1st. The law changes the membership on the Maine HIV Advisory Committee so that it includes two Legislators, five representatives of state agencies, four persons living with HIV/AIDS, two representatives of populations most affected by HIV/AIDS in the State, two providers of HIV-related services, two representatives of the public health community and two additional members chosen by the membership.

**LD 95 Resolve, To Create the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children**

**INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAKER HASKELL	OTP-AM	H-79

This resolve establishes the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children, which is directed to study issues regarding child sexual abuse in Maine and to recommend policies to address those issues. The policies may include age-appropriate curricula for school children from prekindergarten to grade five and methods to increase teacher, student and parent awareness of the issues regarding child sexual abuse. The task force is also directed to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, and the joint standing committee is authorized to introduce a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature based on that report.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-79)**