

# 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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\*Rep. Jane P. Pringle temporarily appointed for the duration of the absence of Rep. Matthew Peterson on the Health and Human Services Committee

# 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*

**LD 536**      **An Act To Improve the Efficiency of Use of MaineCare Funds**

ONTP

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to amend the law and direct the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules to ensure that a person who has applied for MaineCare coverage is discharged from the hospital to a rehabilitation facility promptly as appropriate to that person's medical condition. The purpose of the bill will be to ensure appropriate care in the appropriate setting and to decrease inappropriate hospital use.

**LD 537**      **An Act To Help Maine Residents Receive Private Health Care Insurance**

**ACCEPTED  
MAJORITY  
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

This bill provides that, as a condition of eligibility for MaineCare, individuals must apply for enrollment in an employer's group health plan. The bill makes clear that the employer's group health plan is the primary coverage and any MaineCare benefits are secondary.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-367)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. This amendment strikes the bill but retains and reallocates the provision prohibiting an individual from accepting anything of value in exchange for not enrolling in the individual's employer's group health plan.

**LD 538**      **An Act To Align Costs Recognized for Transfer of Nursing Facilities and Residential Care Facilities with Ordinary Commercial and Government Contracting Standards**

**CARRIED OVER**

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

This bill provides that, to align treatment of long-term care providers with other government contractors and typical private transactions, MaineCare depreciation recapture from sellers of nursing facilities and residential care facilities does not apply to any sales on or after July 1, 2012.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-516)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. This amendment provides a new methodology under the MaineCare program for calculating recapture of depreciation upon the sale of a nursing facility. The amendment requires the Department of Health and Human Services to apply for a state plan amendment to enable the use of the new methodology and makes the effective date of the provision of law that establishes the new methodology contingent upon the approval by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare