

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND
FINANCIAL SERVICES**

July 2013

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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 126th 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 126th 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 Insurance and Financial Services

single per accident limit, the amount of underinsured vehicle coverage available to each claimant must be calculated by deducting any payment received from the owner or operator of the underinsured motor vehicle from that single limit. In no event may the maximum amount payable by the insurer to all claimants exceed that limit.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-146)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee and replaces the bill. The amendment incorporates the substantive provisions of the bill and makes technical changes to clarify the language.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 284 provides that, in the event that an underinsured vehicle policy applicable to 2 or more claimants contains a single per accident limit, the amount of underinsured vehicle coverage available to each claimant must be calculated by deducting any payment received from the owner or operator of the underinsured motor vehicle from that single limit. In no event may the maximum amount payable by the insurer to all claimants exceed that limit.

LD 637 An Act To Prohibit Consideration of Preexisting Conditions in ONTP **Short-term Disability Insurance**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| TUTTLE BECK | ONTP | |

This bill prohibits an insurer that issues group short-term disability insurance on or after January 1, 2014 from refusing to provide coverage on the basis of a preexisting condition and from imposing any exclusion on coverage based on that preexisting condition.

LD 645 An Act To Allow the Adjustment of the Assessment Rate for the Rural PUBLIC 170 **Medical Access Program**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| WHITTEMORE FITZPATRICK | OTP | |

Currently, the Rural Medical Access Program assessment rate is 0.75% of professional liability insurance premium, which results in annual revenues in excess of annual costs. This bill authorizes the Superintendent of Insurance to lower the assessment rate by rule in order to allow for the orderly and prudent drawdown of excess funds not needed by the program.

Enacted Law Summary

Currently, the Rural Medical Access Program assessment rate is 0.75% of professional liability insurance premium, which results in annual revenues in excess of annual costs. Public Law 2013, chapter 170 authorizes the Superintendent of Insurance to lower the assessment rate by rule in order to allow for the orderly and prudent drawdown of excess funds not needed by the program.