

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 HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES**

July 2013

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126TH 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 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 Health and Human Services

LD 897

An Act To Establish the Volunteer Advocate Program and the Volunteer Advocate Program Council

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WILLETTE JACKSON T	OTP-AM ONTP	H-462

This bill establishes in law the Volunteer Advocate Program to replace the Volunteer Correspondent Program established in 1978 pursuant to the Pineland Consent Decree. The bill establishes a structure and guidelines for the enhancement and continuation of a program of volunteer advocates for persons with intellectual disabilities and autism with the goal of establishing an independent not-for-profit corporation to provide volunteer advocacy services.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-462)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. This amendment changes the name of the Volunteer Advocate Program Board to the Volunteer Advocate Program Council, places the council within the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-B, section 1223 and gives to the board the responsibility of making recommendations to the Governor for appointments to the council. This amendment adds a person who serves as a volunteer advocate under the Volunteer Advocate Program to the list of persons who are required to report to the Department of Health and Human Services known or suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of an incapacitated or dependent adult. The amendment allows council members to serve three terms and changes the budget of the council to a portion of the budget of the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board in the same proportion as was provided to the volunteer correspondent program. The amendment adds to the duties of the council supervision of the program coordinator. The amendment removes from the provision on fund-raising the statement on use of funds to defray the State's budget expenditure for the program. The amendment adds to the council's duties the duty to exercise operational control of the program. The amendment adds rulemaking and bylaw and policy responsibilities for the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board. The amendment adds to the duties of the council the duty to provide an annual report to the board, the department and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters on the activities of the council and the operations of the program. The amendment clarifies that a volunteer advocate is available to a person who requests the assignment of an advocate and allows a consumer to restrict the advocate's access to people, facilities and records. The amendment changes existing provisions of law on personal planning for persons with intellectual disabilities or autism, enacting a definition of "volunteer advocate," eliminating references to volunteer correspondents and substituting references to volunteer advocates.

LD 908

An Act To Limit MaineCare Reimbursement for Suboxone and Methadone Treatment

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DICKERSON MAZUREK	ONTP OTP	

Current law limits to 24 months MaineCare coverage or reimbursement for buprenorphine and naloxone combination drugs, also known as Suboxone, for the treatment of addiction to opioids and for methadone for the treatment of addiction to opiates. The Department of Health and Human Services may authorize an extension of the 24-month limit for Suboxone or methadone.