

# 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

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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*

percentage and a pool available for exceptions and rewards. Up to 10% of available funds are allowed in the pool.

See also LD 986.

**LD 1246     An Act To Promote Greater Staffing Flexibility without Compromising Safety or Quality in Nursing Facilities     ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STUCKEY CRAVEN	ONTP	

Currently, nursing home staffing ratios are calculated based on individual 8-hour shifts. This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt acuity-based staffing, calculated over a 24-hour period and tied to a quality and safety threshold established by federally gathered data relevant to resident harm. Nursing homes would still ultimately be required to staff according to residents' needs. The bill provides that changes to the licensing rules are major substantive rules.

See also LD 986.

**LD 1247     An Act To Expand Coverage of Family Planning Services     CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PRINGLE		

This bill expands Medicaid coverage for family planning services to adults and adolescents who have incomes less than or equal to 200% of the nonfarm income official poverty line as defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget.

This bill was 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).

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, incorporates a fiscal note.

**LD 1274     An Act To Sustain Emergency Medical Services throughout the State     HELD BY GOVERNOR**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE FARNSWORTH	OTP-AM	S-218 S-357 HILL

This bill increases MaineCare reimbursement rates for ambulance services to Medicare reimbursement rate levels and provides an appropriation and allocation for the increased costs to the MaineCare program.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-218)**

This amendment changes the reimbursement rate for ambulance services from not less than the average allowable reimbursement rate under Medicare to not less than 65% of the average allowable reimbursement rate under Medicare. The amendment also replaces the appropriations and allocations section of the bill.