

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

STAFF:

JANE ORBETON, SENIOR ANALYST
ANNA BROOME, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
&
CHRISTOPHER NOLAN
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW
5 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1635

MEMBERS:

SEN. MARGARET M. CRAVEN, CHAIR
SEN. COLLEEN M. LACHOWICZ
SEN. JAMES M. HAMPER

REP. RICHARD R. FARNSWORTH, CHAIR
REP. JANE P. PRINGLE*
REP. PETER C. STUCKEY
REP. KATHERINE W. CASSIDY
REP. ANN E. DORNEY
REP. DREW M. GATTINE
REP. DEBORAH J. SANDERSON
REP. RICHARD S. MALABY
REP. HEATHER W. SIROCKI
REP. CAROL A. MCELWEE
REP. HENRY JOHN BEAR

*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

126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

prepared marijuana, to transfer for reasonable compensation up to 2 pounds per year to a dispensary and allows a dispensary to accept that transfer. The law corrects an error in the statute regarding dispensaries and the acquisition of marijuana plants.

LD 1443 An Act To Make Convicted Drug Felons Ineligible for TANF Assistance

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

Current law prohibits a person who has been convicted of a drug-related felony from being denied Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, or TANF, benefits due to that conviction. Current law also allows the drug testing of a person receiving TANF benefits if the person has been convicted of a drug-related felony within 20 years of receiving TANF. If the drug test is positive for illegal drugs, a second test may be requested by the person and, if the second test is positive, the suspension of TANF benefits may be avoided by enrolling in a substance abuse treatment program.

This bill repeals the prohibition against the denial of TANF benefits for a conviction of a drug-related felony, instead providing that anyone who is convicted for a drug-related felony after August 22, 1996 is ineligible for TANF benefits, including a person who is receiving TANF benefits on the effective date of the legislation. The bill also repeals the provision allowing the Department of Health and Human Services to administer drug tests to persons convicted of a drug-related felony and the person who tests positive for illegal drug use to avoid the loss of benefits. The bill requires an applicant for or recipient of TANF benefits to declare in a written, signed statement whether the person or any member of that person's household has been convicted of a drug-related felony.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-519)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, replaces the term "felony drug offense" with "disqualifying drug conviction."

LD 1449 An Act To Amend the Composition and Duties of the Maine Children's Growth Council

CARRIED OVER

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

This bill amends the composition and duties of the Maine Children's Growth Council by:

1. Requiring the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives, when making appointments to the council, to ensure that appointees represent a diversity of interests including early learning coalitions, public health and safety networks, organizations that prevent and address child abuse and neglect and philanthropic organizations;
2. Increasing the number of members who represent statewide associations of business and industry to 2;
3. Adding the commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, of the Department of Corrections, the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Department of Labor and the Department of Public Safety and the Superintendent of Insurance, or the superintendent's designee, as members;

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

4. Adding 3 more employees from the Department of Health and Human Services or the Department of Education;
5. Staggering the terms of appointed members;
6. Requiring the Governor, when appointing the chairs of the council, to consider the recommendations of the council;
7. Specifying that certain public members not otherwise compensated are entitled to receive mileage and a per diem;
8. Specifying that staff members of the council are authorized to undertake certain actions, such as entering into contracts and providing funding;
9. Repealing the current law that requires the council to develop a long-term plan for investment in the healthy development of young children and replacing it with the requirement to develop a long-term plan in accordance with specific requirements, including:
 - A. Requirements for the council to consult with specified state agencies and local governments when developing the long-term plan; and
 - B. Strategies and timelines that provide for the coordination of resources and services across State Government and the elimination of duplicate programs and services to reflect the diversity of and uniqueness of young children and their families and to maximize federal funding; and
10. Requiring the long-term plan to be developed within 12 months of the effective date of this bill.

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).

LD 1462 An Act To Clarify and Correct Provisions of the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act

PUBLIC 374

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DION HASKELL	OTP-AM	H-465

This bill amends the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act in the following ways:

1. It changes the name of the act to the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act;
2. It allows access to a registered dispensary's cultivation facility or a cultivation facility used by a patient or primary caregiver by a licensed health care professional, vendor, consultant or person performing repairs or maintenance, but only under the direct supervision of a registered cardholder who is a principal officer, board member or employee of the registered dispensary or a patient or primary caregiver;
3. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules for the medical use of marijuana to eliminate the requirement that a dispensary or a primary caregiver tag each marijuana plant with a patient's name or have any other method that allows the department to determine for whom a plant is being cultivated;
4. It requires the department to change the rule regarding written notification given by registered dispensaries of any substantive policy or procedure change, requiring notification to be made within 30 days of the implementation