

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
126<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN  
SERVICES**

May 2014

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
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**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND**  
**ENACTED LAWS**

The *Digest* is arranged 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.

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 Second Regular Session of the 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature is August 1, 2014. 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 1829    An Act To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Report Annually on Investigations and Prosecutions of False Claims Made under the MaineCare, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Food Supplement Programs**

**Veto Sustained**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GATTINE LACHOWICZ	OTP-AM ONTP	H-786 H-818    FARNSWORTH

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report annually by February 15th to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over financial affairs regarding actions taken by the department to investigate program integrity under the MaineCare, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and food supplement programs, including the amount recovered, the cost of those investigations and prosecutions, the number of personnel working on the investigations, the status of cases referred to the Attorney General's office, a description of the performance and activities of a vendor, contractor or other program integrity unit used by the department to help recover overpayments, a description of the department's participation in federally mandated program integrity efforts, the results of federal audits, a description of defects, deficiencies or weaknesses in department systems, a description of planned investments in technology and a description of policy changes or improvements implemented.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-786)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, clarifies the bill by adding references to the chapters of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22 through which benefits are provided under the MaineCare program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, TANF, program, Additional Support for People in Retraining and Employment-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program and the statewide food supplement program. The amendment also specifies that information disclosed by the Office of the Attorney General for the purposes of the annual report from the Department of Health and Human Services on investigations and prosecutions of false claims made under the MaineCare, TANF and food supplement programs on the status of cases must conform to the law on intelligence and investigative record information and may not compromise the investigation or prosecution of a case. The amendment also specifies that the requirements of the bill must be accomplished within the existing resources of the department.

**House Amendment "A" (H-818)**

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause.

**LD 1840    An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Substance Abuse Services Commission with Regard to the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program**

**PUBLIC 587  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP	S-531    HILL

This bill implements the recommendations of the Substance Abuse Services Commission with regard to the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program pursuant to Resolve 2013, chapter 25. The bill is the unanimous report of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and is reported out of committee pursuant to Joint Rule 353. The bill repeals provisions of the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program that pertain to specific participation requirements. It appropriates funding to enable the Department of

## *Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services*

Health and Human Services to update the monitoring program's online enrollment mechanism for prescribers of controlled substances and directs the department to take action to enable those prescribers to renew professional applications online. It appropriates funding to implement electronic coding necessary to update the monitoring program's computer system. The bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to seek outside funding if funding is insufficient to complete the update.

### **Senate Amendment "A" (S-531)**

This amendment removes the appropriations and allocations section.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 587 implements the recommendations of the Substance Abuse Services Commission with regard to the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program pursuant to Resolve 2013, chapter 25. The law repeals provisions of the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program that pertain to specific participation requirements. The law requires the Department of Health and Human Services to update the enrollment mechanism for prescribers of controlled substances who are registering with the program or are renewing registration. The law requires the department to update its computer system to allow subaccount holders and delegated account holders access to the database using the online application process. The law requires updating of the computer system to enable licensing data to be extracted on a scheduled basis and transferred to the program in order to allow for some automated enrollment. The law allows the Department of Health and Human Services to seek outside funding if funding is insufficient to complete the update.

Public Law 2013, chapter 587 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 30, 2014.

### **LD 1842 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program**

**Accepted Majority  
(ONTP) Report**

#### Sponsor(s)

GILLWAY  
HAMPER

#### Committee Report

ONTP  
OTP-AM

#### Amendments Adopted

This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

1. It removes the provision that prohibits a person from being sanctioned under the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Employment-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program or the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program for failure to participate in the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Employment-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program if that failure to participate is based on good cause.
2. It removes the 24-month limit on education, training and treatment for participants in the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Employment-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.
3. It eliminates the Parents as Scholars Program.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-790)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, retains the provision of current law that prohibits a person from being sanctioned under the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Employment Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program if the person is a victim of domestic violence.