

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2015

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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 127th 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. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN HOUSES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagreed; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>action incomplete when session ended; legislation died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment</i>
<i>FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>failed to receive final majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>HELD BY GOVERNOR</i>	<i>Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session</i>
<i>LEAVE TO WITHDRAW</i>	<i>sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>indefinitely postponed; legislation died</i>
<i>ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X</i>	<i>ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted private & special law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted public law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of finally passed resolve</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature is October 15, 2015. 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

attended by a licensed medical practitioner.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-193)

This amendment provides an additional exception, beyond the exception established in the bill, to the law mandating a report to the Department of Health and Human Services of suspected abuse or neglect of a child under six months of age for burns or other injuries occurring as a result of medical treatment following the delivery of the child while the child remains hospitalized.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 178 creates exceptions to the law mandating a report to the Department of Health and Human Services of suspected abuse or neglect of a child under six months of age for injuries occurring during birth when the delivery is attended by a licensed medical practitioner and for burns or other injuries occurring as a result of medical treatment following the delivery of the child while the child remains hospitalized.

LD 517

Resolve, To Reconcile Conflicts between the Home and Community-based Waiver Program for the Elderly and Adults with Disabilities and the Requirements of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Safety

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
FARNSWORTH

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and the Commissioner of Public Safety to convene a stakeholder group to resolve ongoing issues between the home and community-based waiver program for the elderly and adults with disabilities and the requirements of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Safety. The stakeholder group is directed to report with a plan to resolve the issues to the commissioners by May 1, 2015. The commissioners are directed to submit by May 15, 2015 the report and any legislation necessary to implement the plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, which is authorized to submit a bill to the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

LD 524 Resolve, To Develop a Pilot Program for Medication-assisted Recovery in a Rural Community at least 30 Miles from Bangor

Veto Sustained

Sponsor(s)
GRATWICK
GOODE

Committee Report
OTP-AM
ONTP

Amendments Adopted
S-203

This bill proposes to decrease the cost of and increase access to substance abuse treatment services by requiring the Department of Health and Human Services to increase the number of federally qualified health centers that provide methadone treatment services, to establish a pilot clinic location in a rural area at least 30 miles from any currently licensed methadone treatment clinic and to work to facilitate access to services and distribution of services across the State. The bill requires the department to amend the methadone clinic rules to eliminate the requirement that the centers be open for administration of methadone treatment on Sundays. The bill designates the rules as routine technical rules. The department is required to work with stakeholders to address current rules and policies that act as barriers to achieve the intent of this legislation.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-203)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill with a resolve. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to convene a stakeholder group to develop a plan for a pilot program for