

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
127<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**

August 2015

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# 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 127<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. 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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>chapter # of enacted private &amp; 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 127<sup>th</sup> 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*

apply for and receive a certificate of need from the Department of Health and Human Services. This bill eliminates that requirement.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (S-167)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, changes the bill title to reflect that it eliminates the entire certificate of need process rather than only the certificate of need process for hospitals. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

### **LD 736      An Act To Allow Access to Certain Death Records**

**PUBLIC 189**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VOLK ESPLING	OTP-AM	S-199

This bill requires that when a physician or clinical psychologist has evaluated a person for the purpose of providing a second opinion on whether the person meets the criteria for emergency admission to a psychiatric hospital and determines that the person does not meet the criteria, the physician or clinical psychologist must destroy the written application for emergency admission and accompanying certificate.

The bill also authorizes the names and dates of death of individuals who died while patients at the Pineland Hospital and Training Center to be made available to the public in accordance with rules adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (S-199)**

This amendment strikes section 2 of the bill, which requires that when a physician or clinical psychologist has evaluated a person for the purpose of providing a second opinion on whether the person meets the criteria for emergency admission to a psychiatric hospital and determines that the person does not meet the criteria, the physician or clinical psychologist must destroy the written application for emergency admission and accompanying certificate.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2015, chapter 189 authorizes the names and dates of death of individuals who died while patients at the Pineland Hospital and Training Center to be made available to the public in accordance with rules adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services.

### **LD 751      An Act To Provide Consideration of the Need for Nursing Facility Beds in the Area Where They Are Located before Those Beds Are Lost**

**ONTP**

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

This bill requires the certificate of need process to take into account the effect of the loss of nursing facility beds on the community's health and economy and on family members and the individuals occupying the beds. The existing process examines only the need for new beds in an area where beds have been proposed.