

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

STAFF:

ANNA BROOME, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
MICHAEL O'BRIEN, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

AND

LUKE LAZURE, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW
5 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1635

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STATE OF MAINE

127TH LEGISLATURE

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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.

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 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

LD 1076 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To RESOLVE 35
Increase Public Awareness about and Access to Federal Resources
Related to Vaccine Injuries

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'CONNOR MASON	OTP-AM	H-305

This bill establishes the Vaccine Consumer Protection Program within the Department of Health and Human Services and describes the services provided under the new program.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-305)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve directing the Department of Health and Human Services to create a link on the department's publicly accessible website to existing federal resources related to vaccine injuries, including, but not limited to, information about the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration and the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System cosponsored by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the United States Food and Drug Administration, agencies of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2015, chapter 35 directs the Department of Health and Human Services to create a link on the department's publicly accessible website to existing federal resources related to vaccine injuries, including, but not limited to, information about the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration and the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System cosponsored by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the United States Food and Drug Administration, agencies of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

LD 1077 An Act To Ensure Access to Public Health Nursing Care and Child and ONTP
Maternal Health Nursing Care in Washington County

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to reallocate funds to support increasing public health nursing and child and maternal health nursing capacity in rural underserved areas in Washington County in order to address health disparities rather than continuing to offer the majority of services in more urban and populated counties.

LD 1078 An Act To Preserve MaineCare Assisted Living by Providing a 4% Rate Died On
Increase to Private Nonmedical Institutions and Adult Family Care Adjournment
Homes

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BURNS SANDERSON	OTP-AM	S-168

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

This bill provides funds to give adult family care homes and Appendix C private nonmedical institutions a four percent cost-of-living rate increase in funding in each of the next two fiscal years. Annual cost-of-living adjustments are provided by rule for each fiscal year thereafter in accordance with the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index medical care services index.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-168)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It provides that adult family care homes and Appendix C private nonmedical institutions receive a four percent rate increase in funding in each of the next two fiscal years, rather than a cost-of-living rate increase.
2. It strikes the requirement that an inflation adjustment be set for fiscal years beginning 2017-18.

A four percent increase in reimbursement to adult family care homes and PNMI assisted living facilities beginning on July 1, 2015 was included in Public Law 2015, chapter 267.

LD 1079 Resolve, To Support and Encourage the Development of an Adult Family Care Demonstration Project in Washington County

RESOLVE 31

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BURNS TUELL	OTP-AM	S-166

This resolve increases by up to 40 the number of available residential care beds in Maine. This resolve also directs the Department of Health and Human Services to review the reimbursement levels at residential care facilities to identify if an increase in MaineCare funding is necessary to account for higher levels of care at these facilities and directs the department to develop a demonstration program in Washington County for suite-type settings that allow couples to remain living together. The department is also required to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 15, 2016.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-166)

This amendment removes the section increasing the number of residential care facility beds from the resolve. It retains the requirement for the Department of Health and Human Services to review reimbursement levels at residential care facilities but allows current reviews of continuum of care to be included. Like the resolve, it requires the department to develop a demonstration project in Washington County with suite-type settings but clarifies that the project does not apply only to couples. It authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services to report out legislation related to the demonstration project and the review to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature. The amendment also changes the title.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2015, chapter 31 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to review reimbursement levels at residential care facilities and develop a demonstration project in Washington County with suite-type settings. It authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services to report out legislation related to the demonstration project and the review to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.