

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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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 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

calculating TANF benefits;

5. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to set up specialized navigator services related to employment in the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Employment - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program so that families receiving TANF benefits understand how earned income affects benefit levels and work supports;

6. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Labor, Maine employers, the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System to establish structured pathways leading to education, training and employment opportunities for persons eligible for TANF; and

7. It requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to convene a working group to review and make recommendations to establish a program to provide access to reliable transportation for families that qualify for assistance under TANF. The commissioner must report the findings of the working group to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by January 1, 2016. The Department of Health and Human Services must amend its TANF rules to incorporate the findings of the working group.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 1270 An Act Regarding Patient-directed Care at the End of Life

Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KATZ JORGENSEN	ONTP OTP	

This bill enacts a process for patient-directed care at the end of life for Maine residents who are adults who are terminally ill and who have been determined to have a limited life expectancy.

Specifically, the bill:

1. Provides that such a patient has a right to information and includes requirements for patient and physician action and documentation in the patient's medical records of the steps taken;
2. Authorizes a physician to prescribe a medication that the patient may self-administer for the purpose of hastening the patient's death;
3. Provides protections for the physician, the patient's health care facility and health care providers;
4. Protects the patient's life insurance and the health care providers' medical professional liability insurance;
5. Protects the patient's right to palliative care;
6. Requires rulemaking by the Department of Health and Human Services to provide for safe disposal of medications that are prescribed for end-of-life care and that are not used by the patient;
7. States that nothing in the provisions of the bill may be construed to authorize a physician or other person to end a patient's life by lethal injection, mercy killing or active euthanasia; and
8. States that the provisions of the bill may not be construed to conflict with Section 1553 of the federal Patient

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended by the federal Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.

LD 1294 An Act To Improve the Health of Maine Residents through Education and Health Care **INDEF PP**

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

This bill allocates funds on a one-time basis to the Department of Health and Human Services, Fund for a Healthy Maine to improve the health of Maine residents through education and health care for the fiscal year 2015-16.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-195)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 1295 An Act To Streamline Regulation of Farms, Food Producers and Food Establishments **Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HICKMAN LANGLEY		

This bill moves the licensing and regulatory responsibility for the sale of prepared food from the Department of Health and Human Services to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The bill also amends cross-references and other provisions of law to reflect this change.

LD 1307 An Act To Fund the Maine Diversion Alert Program **PUBLIC 304 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WILLETTE FOWLE	OTP-AM ONTP	S-106

This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to determine the amount of funding required to maintain the Maine Diversion Alert Program statewide, to seek ongoing funding sources for the program and to report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 1, 2016. It also provides one-time General Fund appropriations of \$95,000 in fiscal year 2014-15, fiscal year 2015-16 and fiscal year 2016-17 for the Department of the Attorney General to maintain funding for the program.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-106)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, strikes out the requirement for the Department of Health and Human Services to seek ongoing funding for the Maine Diversion Alert Program. It also strikes the appropriations for the 2014-15 fiscal year and the 2016-17 fiscal year.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 304 provides a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$95,000 in fiscal year 2015-16 for