

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
128<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 2017

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\*Committee member for a portion of the session

# STATE OF MAINE

128<sup>TH</sup> 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 128<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.

*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 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. 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*

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-90)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It adds to the bill requirements that a physician must counsel a patient who is seeking medication in order to hasten the end of life regarding the importance of having another person present when the patient takes the medication, the importance of storing the medication safely and the possibility that the patient may choose not to take the medication. It also requires the physician to discuss with the patient, outside the presence of others, whether the patient feels unduly influenced.

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 358      An Act To Close the Gap in Children's Health Care Coverage in Maine      Died On Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT M KATZ R	OTP-AM ONTP	H-260

This bill allows children of state employees to be eligible for the State Children's Health Insurance Program as long as they meet the other eligibility requirements.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-260)**

This amendment provides funding to the Department of Health and Human Services to reflect the increased cost to the State Children's Health Insurance Program and deappropriates funds from the state employee health plan.

The substance of this bill is included in Public Law 2017, chapter 284.

**LD 383      An Act To Increase Access to Child Care      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLETT R HAMANN S		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to increase access to child care.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

**LD 384      An Act To Strengthen Maine Children's Mental Health      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLETT R MALABY R		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to require MaineCare to cover mental health treatment for a child that uses evidence-based

*Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services*

practices, to include meetings with the parent of the child without the child present as long as the meetings are focused on the goals of the treatment.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

**LD 386      An Act To Establish Universal Health Care for Maine      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GRATWICK G HYMANSON P		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to establish a single-payor, universal health care system in the State. Portions of the system will be based on the single-payor system in place in Vermont and the single-payor proposals submitted previously in Maine and Colorado. The single-payor system proposed in this bill will also be responsive to any changes made on the federal level to the federal Affordable Care Act.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

**LD 401      An Act To Require Reimbursement to Hospitals for Patients Awaiting Placement in Nursing Facilities      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SIROCKI H LANGLEY B	OTP-AM ONTP	H-109

This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to provide reimbursement to hospitals other than critical access hospitals for each day after the 10th day that a MaineCare-eligible individual is in the care of a hospital while awaiting placement in a nursing facility. The reimbursement is to be paid prospectively at the statewide average rate per MaineCare member day for nursing facility services. The department is directed to implement this reimbursement for days awaiting placement for a period limited to five years. Reimbursement is limited to a maximum of \$500,000 of combined General Fund funds and federal funds for each year of the five-year period.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-109)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, adds a start date of January 1, 2018, for the department to reimburse a hospital for the days a MaineCare-eligible individual is in the care of the hospital while awaiting placement in a nursing facility and adds language repealing the provision five years later.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to the next special or regular session of the 128th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, S.P. 601.

**LD 411      An Act To Add Addiction to or Dependency on Opiates or Prescription Drugs to the List of Qualifying Conditions for Medical Marijuana      CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRAKEY E		