

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH 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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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 128th 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 128th 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

Resolve 2017, chapter 10 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective May 31, 2017.

LD 1423 An Act To Amend Certain Laws Governing Child Care Providers

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)

LIBBY N

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill makes various changes to the laws governing child care facilities and family child care providers, including:

1. Allowing a parent who receives a child care subsidy to make up the difference between the amount of the subsidy and the total cost of child care without losing the subsidy;
2. Defining an infant as a child six weeks of age or older and under 12 months of age and a toddler as a child 12 months of age or older and under 36 months of age;
3. Allowing a person to care for up to four children in the person's home without that person's being required to become certified as a family child care provider;
4. Creating a license or certification renewal with a term of five years for a child care facility or family child care provider that has been in operation and licensed or certified in good standing for at least five consecutive years;
5. Directing the Department of Health and Human Services upon a complaint to investigate only that complaint unless there is reasonable cause to suspect another violation;
6. Providing a period of up to 90 days for a person to work as a staff member for a child care facility or family child care provider without the completion of a criminal background check while a criminal background check is being conducted;
7. Allowing for exceptions to department rules involving child to staff ratios, the ages of children and infants and toddlers in cases of extenuating circumstances due to an unexpected staff member absence or parent drop-off of a child at the facility or provider or due to the particular needs of an individual child;
8. Requiring department rules to be narrowly based upon the health and safety of the children and not to unreasonably interfere with facility or provider business operations in which the health and safety of the children are not involved;
9. Requiring in the instance of the department's declining to renew a license or certification of a child care facility or family child care provider that the renewal fee paid by the facility or provider be refunded;
10. Detailing inspection and post-inspection processes including the posting of information regarding a child care facility or family child care provider by the department on a publicly accessible website; and
11. Directing the department to develop recommended legislation to create an appeals board composed of members not employed or appointed by the department to review department decisions regarding child care facilities and family child care providers and to develop a child care provider bill of rights.

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