

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL AND SECOND REGULAR SESSIONS



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

November 2020

**STAFF:**

ANNA BROOME, SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
ERIN DOOLING, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/opla/>  
AND  
LUKE LAZURE, SENIOR 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

129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



## 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 129<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 129<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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 284      An Act To Improve Care Provided to Forensic Patients**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GATTINE D BREEN C	ONTP	

This bill was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill establishes a residential forensic step-down facility, which provides treatment of forensic patients who no longer require hospital level care but cannot be safely treated in a community setting, in Augusta in the Capitol Area. It authorizes the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to maintain and operate the 21-bed forensic step-down facility. It provides that the facility must be licensed and that the Department of Health and Human Services must adopt rules that apply specifically to the licensure of a forensic step-down facility and that include the admission and discharge standards of the facility, the staffing model, security, patients' access to treatment and patient rights protections. It requires that the department provisionally adopt rules to implement the licensure of the forensic step-down facility no later than January 11, 2020. It creates an advisory committee to participate in and guide the planning process for the facility and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It authorizes the committee to report out a bill based on the advisory committee's report. It requires the department to report to the committee on the progress of creating the facility and developing rules. It provides that the transfer of a forensic patient into the forensic step-down facility must be approved by a court of appropriate jurisdiction. It includes the forensic step-down facility in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-B, chapter 1 as a "state institution."

**LD 315      Resolve, To Promote Healthy Living in Maine**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MADIGAN C POULIOTM	OTP-AM	H-197

This bill was amended to a resolve in the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature and then carried over on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill appropriates funds for evidence-based programs to promote healthy living of the State's older adults.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-197)**

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve that directs the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a two-year program designed to support and improve the health and well-being of the State's older adults and reduce health care treatment costs by preventing disease, injury and falls. It directs the department to contract for the implementation of this program with one or more community-based organizations that have a demonstrated ability to deliver evidence-based programs to serve older adults statewide, especially in rural, underserved and unserved areas of the State. The amendment describes the criteria that a community-based organization must meet in order to be awarded a contract. It also changes the appropriations and allocations section to indicate that it is one-time funding.

This resolve was again carried over, still on the Special Appropriations Table, to any special session of the 129th