

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2019

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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 129th 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 129th 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

services or the funding mechanisms for the program, unless required by federal law.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-306)

This amendment, which is the unanimous report of the committee, adds language describing the situations in which the Department of Health and Human Services may not implement changes in the Medicaid program or the federal State Children's Health Insurance Program without proper authorization from the Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 266 provides that, without authorization from the Legislature by proper enactment of a law, the Department of Health and Human Services may not implement changes in the Medicaid program or the federal State Children's Health Insurance Program that significantly change enrollment in the program, the category or scope of covered services or the funding mechanisms for the program, unless required by federal law.

LD 633 An Act To Create a Kinship Care Navigator Program within the Department of Health and Human Services

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WARREN C BELLOWS S	OTP-AM	H-195

This bill requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to appoint one person to administer all issues related to the placement of a child with a relative.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-195)

This amendment, which is the unanimous report of the committee, replaces the bill. It establishes within the Department of Health and Human Services the kinship care navigator program to provide resources and information to persons providing kinship care to children in the State. It requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to designate one person to administer the program. It also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 646 An Act To Improve Trust with Regard to Home Visitation by the Department of Health and Human Services by Requiring That Certain Visits Be Videotaped

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOUDERA V	ONTP	

This bill requires Department of Health and Human Services staff who visit the home of a child to investigate or assess an allegation of abuse or neglect to videotape all interviews conducted during the visit.

LD 653 Resolve, To Establish the Task Force To Study Opportunities for Improving Home and Community-based Services

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COOPER J SANBORN H		

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

This resolve establishes the Task Force To Study Opportunities for Improving Home and Community-based Services. The task force membership consists of Legislators, representatives of entities knowledgeable about or involved in home and community-based services, one provider of such services, one recipient of such services, the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, the Commissioner of Labor and one member of the public. The task force's duties include examination and review of the unmet need for home and community-based services, adequacy of the workforce providing home and community-based services, current systems for delivering home and community-based services and reimbursement arrangements in the home and community-based services sector. The task force is required to publish an interim report by October 15, 2019 and then seek input from stakeholders around the State. The task force must report its findings and recommendations, including any necessary implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by December 15, 2019.

This resolve was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 683 An Act To Provide Social Workers to Persons with Mental Illness to Help Them Avoid Incarceration ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAVEN M	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to provide social workers to persons with mental illness who are in crisis or pose a threat to themselves or others in order for them to avoid incarceration and protect their safety and the safety of others.

LD 684 Resolve, Relating to the Prevention and Management of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NADEAU C FARRIN B	ONTP	

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop recommendations for measures related to the prevention and management of neonatal abstinence syndrome.

LD 692 Resolve, To Address Reimbursement Rates for Licensed Clinical Social Workers under MaineCare CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GRAMLICH L BELLOWS S	OTP-AM	H-407

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III to increase reimbursement rates for counseling services provided by licensed clinical social workers to no less than the lowest reimbursement rate for the same counseling services paid by an insurance carrier licensed in this State. The rules are routine technical rules and must be amended no later than January 1, 2020.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-407)

This amendment specifies that the services provided by independent licensed clinical social workers are provided