

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 COVERAGE,
INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL 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 Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

LD 942 An Act To Require Reimbursement for Medical Marijuana

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINGS B DILL J	ONTP	

Part A of this bill requires a health insurance carrier to provide coverage for marijuana for medical use for a health plan enrollee who has received certification for the medical use of marijuana from an authorized medical provider. Carriers are required to directly reimburse a health plan enrollee for the costs of obtaining a medical marijuana certificate and the costs of medical marijuana. The requirements apply to all individual and group policies and contracts issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2020. Part A also applies the same requirements to individual and group accidental injury and disability insurance.

Part B of the bill requires an employer to reimburse an employee eligible for workers' compensation benefits for the costs of obtaining a medical marijuana certificate and the costs of medical marijuana.

LD 943 An Act To Allow Laser Spine Surgery in the State

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STANLEY S	ONTP	

This bill allows the use of lasers during spine surgery.

LD 995 An Act To Establish a Student Loan Bill of Rights To License and Regulate Student Loan Servicers

PUBLIC 431

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VITELLI E STEWART T	OTP-AM	S-225

This bill does the following.

1. It creates a position of student loan ombudsman under the Superintendent of Consumer Credit Protection within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection. The student loan ombudsman's duties include: receiving, reviewing and, if possible, resolving complaints from student loan borrowers; compiling and analyzing student loan borrower data; assisting student loan borrowers to understand their rights and responsibilities; providing information to the public, agencies and Legislators regarding concerns of student loan borrowers and making recommendations to resolve them; analyzing and monitoring the development and implementation of other legislation and policies that affect student loan borrowers and recommending necessary changes; reviewing student education loan history for borrowers who consent; disseminating information about the ombudsman's availability to assist others; seek the assistance of financial institutions or the Finance Authority of Maine in the resolution of student loan borrower complaints; and other necessary actions.

2. It requires the superintendent to submit an annual report by January 1st of each year in regard to the effectiveness of the student loan ombudsman and to recommend additional steps necessary to gain regulatory control over