

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

increasing MaineCare reimbursement rates under rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 65 and Section 97, Appendix D. The amendment requires the Department of Health and Human Services to negotiate reimbursement rates with providers to provide services to children returning to the State, including deviating from reimbursement rates established by department rules in order to access additional services.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 54 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to coordinate with families of children who are receiving certain services out of state to develop plans to bring the children back to the State to receive the required services and care. It authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to negotiate reimbursement rates with providers to provide services to children returning to the State, including deviating from reimbursement rates established by department rules in order to access additional services.

LD 986 An Act To Expand Lead Inspections to Other Properties of the Owner of ONTP
a Property Determined to Contain Lead

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HANDY J LIBBY N	ONTP	

This bill requires an owner of a dwelling unit determined by the Department of Health and Human Services to have a case of lead poisoning to provide the name, principal address and contact information for the owner of the dwelling unit. If the owner is a business entity, this bill requires the name, principal address and contact information for each partner, officer, director, member, principal or shareholder of that business entity. If an owner or a partner, officer, director, member, principal or shareholder owns or co-owns another residential property built prior to 1978 and located in a high-density lead poisoning area, the Department of Health and Human Services is authorized to inspect every dwelling unit of that other residential property unless the owner can produce a certified lead inspection report conducted within the past three years showing that the other property is lead-safe. This bill splits any fine for violating the provisions of the law between the Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund and the Lead Abatement Fund administered by the Maine State Housing Authority.

LD 993 An Act To Expand Recovery Support Services Offered in Penobscot and ONTP
Piscataquis Counties and the Greater Bangor Region To Improve
Access, Treatment and Recovery for Those Affected by Substance Use
Disorder by Designating a Regional Peer-supported Recovery Center

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROSEN K VEROW A	ONTP	

This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to contract with a regional peer-supported recovery center to expand recovery support services to all areas in Penobscot and Piscataquis counties and the greater Bangor region and provides funding for the contract.

LD 1005 Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Project To Save Lives and Support People RESOLVE 98
with Substance Use Disorder in Washington County EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERRY A MOORE M	OTP-AM	H-160

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

This resolve establishes a pilot project in Washington County to provide treatment and recovery services for people with substance use disorder. The pilot project is established under the Department of Health and Human Services. The department is required to work with Healthy Acadia to develop the pilot project. The department is required to assist Healthy Acadia with seeking federal funding for the pilot project. The pilot project requires the establishment of a central coordinating telephone system available to anyone in Washington County at any time to assist individuals with accessing services related to substance use disorder treatment and recovery. Individuals receiving the phone calls must be qualified to provide counseling services to all callers in addition to providing referrals. The pilot project establishes a coordinating council made up of representatives of the community and organizations in the area involved in the health and welfare of Washington County residents. The council is responsible for providing a coordinated system of services for substance use disorder prevention, treatment and recovery and for developing and implementing a recovery resource fund to provide additional individualized services as part of a wraparound continuum of support and services. It requires the department to report on the pilot project to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters no later than November 30, 2020.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-160)

This amendment changes the dates in the resolve for the central coordinating telephone system to be established and the evaluation report to be submitted to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 98 establishes a pilot project in Washington County to provide treatment and recovery services for people with substance use disorder. The pilot project is established under the Department of Health and Human Services. The department is required to work with Healthy Acadia to develop the pilot project. The department is required to assist Healthy Acadia with seeking federal funding for the pilot project. The pilot project requires the establishment of a central coordinating telephone system available to anyone in Washington County at any time to assist individuals with accessing services related to substance use disorder treatment and recovery. Individuals receiving the phone calls must be qualified to provide counseling services to all callers in addition to providing referrals. The pilot project establishes a coordinating council made up of representatives of the community and organizations in the area involved in the health and welfare of Washington County residents. The council is responsible for providing a coordinated system of services for substance use disorder prevention, treatment and recovery and for developing and implementing a recovery resource fund to provide additional individualized services as part of a wraparound continuum of support and services. It requires the department to report on the pilot project to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters no later than November 30, 2022.

Resolve 2019, chapter 98 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 27, 2019.

LD 1006 *Resolve, To Require the Development of Strategies for Reducing Health Disparities Based on Social Determinants* ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GATTINE D SANBORN L	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to present to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services an action plan detailing strategies for reducing health disparities based on social determinants.