

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

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
AND
LUKE LAZURE, SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW
5 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1635
<http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/opla/>

MEMBERS:

SEN. GEOFFREY M. GRATWICK, CHAIR
SEN. NED CLAXTON
SEN. MARIANNE MOORE

REP. PATRICIA HYMANSON, CHAIR
REP. MARGARET CRAVEN
REP. ANNE C. PERRY
REP. COLLEEN M. MADIGAN
REP. RACHEL TALBOT ROSS
REP. MICHELE MEYER
REP. HOLLY B. STOVER
REP. BETH A. O'CONNOR
REP. KATHY IRENE JAVNER
REP. ABIGAIL W. GRIFFIN

STATE OF MAINE

129TH 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 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

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 256 amends the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act provision governing how much medical marijuana caregivers may cultivate. It defines the term "plant canopy" and adds language allowing caregivers to cultivate up to 30 mature marijuana plants or 500 square feet of plant canopy, 60 immature marijuana plants and unlimited seedlings.

LD 1225 An Act To Increase Funding for Home Visiting Programs

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S POULIOT M	ONTP	

This bill increases the State's funding for home visiting programs in the State in order to stabilize the workforce and expand eligibility to foster families caring for infants.

LD 1228 Resolve, Requiring the Department of Health and Human Services To Develop More Comprehensible MaineCare Benefit Letters

RESOLVE 95

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCREIGHT J GRATWICK G	OTP-AM	H-367

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to create a new limited benefit MaineCare card for individuals who qualify for the Medicare Savings Program, also known as the Medicare Buy-in Program. The department must issue the card to qualified individuals for use at pharmacies and providers of medical, behavioral health and other services. The department must assess the ease of use of the card to cardholders and providers of services and submit a report regarding the limited benefit MaineCare card to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by February 1, 2021.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-367)

This amendment replaces the resolve. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to examine the letters the department sends notifying individuals of their eligibility for MaineCare and the Medicare savings program, also known as the Medicare buy-in program, and make changes to the letters to ensure the format and language of the letters are as user-friendly and comprehensible as possible. The department shall investigate the possibility of a letter that includes a tear-off or cut-out section for use as proof of eligibility for persons eligible for the Medicare savings program to carry if they do not otherwise receive a card from the department for this purpose. Any changes must be made within existing resources. The department shall report any changes to the letters and cards to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by February 1, 2021.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 95 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to examine the letters the department sends notifying individuals of their eligibility for MaineCare and the Medicare savings program, also known as the Medicare buy-in program, and make changes to the letters to ensure the format and language of the letters are as user-friendly and comprehensible as possible. The department shall investigate the possibility of a letter that includes a tear-off or cut-out section for use as proof of eligibility for persons eligible for the Medicare savings program to carry if they do not otherwise receive a card from the department for this purpose. Any changes must be made within existing resources. The department shall report any changes to the letters and cards to the

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by February 1, 2021.

LD 1235 An Act To Increase Safety in Health Care Facilities

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RISEMAN W	ONTP	

Under current law, hospitals are required to annually adopt a safety and security plan to protect patients, visitors and employees of the hospital from aggressive and violent behavior. This bill extends that requirement to all health care facilities.

LD 1247 Resolve, To Clarify the Good Cause and Sanction Process in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Additional Support for People in Retraining and Employment Programs

RESOLVE 67

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MADIGAN C GRATWICK G	OTP-AM	H-408

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules to include a Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program participant's attendance at the medical and mental health appointments of the participant's children as a life management skill and job readiness activity.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-408)

This amendment replaces the resolve and changes the title. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules to establish a process for a participant in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or Additional Support for People in Retraining and Employment - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program who fails to comply with a program requirement with an opportunity to claim good cause and receive a determination from the department in response to that claim.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 67 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules to establish a process for a participant in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or Additional Support for People in Retraining and Employment program who fails to comply with a program requirement with an opportunity to claim good cause and receive a determination from the department in response to that claim.

LD 1259 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Adopt Rules To Streamline and Remove Barriers for Reimbursement for Providers of Dental Care Services

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MASTRACCIO A	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 25, Dental Services to add certain procedures as covered services and to remove the requirement that independent practice dental hygienists must have two written agreements with dentists, one regarding temporary fillings and another regarding dental radiographs.