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
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES
DIED IN CONCURRENCE defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCYenacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGEemergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENTlegislation 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 WITHDRAWsponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODYruled 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
PUBLIC XXX chapter # of enacted public law
RESOLVE XXX
VETO SUSTAINEDLegislature 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

LD 1317

An Act To Restore Services To Help Certain Noncitizens Meet Their Basic Needs

Died On Adjournment

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
GATTINE D	OTP-AM	
LIBBY N	ONTP	

This bill removes limitations on food supplement program benefits and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program benefits, provides MaineCare coverage and modifies language for state-funded supplemental security income to maintain consistency throughout the law for certain noncitizens who are lawfully present in the United States or pursuing a lawful process to apply for immigration relief.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-248)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This amendment was adopted in the House but the Legislature adjourned before it was taken up in the Senate.

House Amendment "B" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-645)

This amendment strikes the appropriations and allocations section in Committee Amendment "A" and instead replaces the bill with a resolve that clarifies state law to ensure that, within existing resources, certain noncitizens are able to access certain assistance.

This amendment was adopted in the House but the Legislature adjourned before it was taken up in the Senate.

LD 1318 Resolve, To Increase Access to Housing-related Support Services

RESOLVE 55

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
GATTINE D	OTP-AM	Н-349
CHIPMAN B		

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to apply for waivers to provide housing-related services, including housing transition and tenancy sustaining services, to individuals with disabilities, older adults needing long-term services and supports and persons experiencing chronic homelessness under the 1915(b) and 1915(c) Medicaid waiver provisions. It also directs the department to amend MaineCare rules to implement the waivers once approved. These allowable benefits are set forth in the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services Informational Bulletin dated June 26, 2015 on Coverage of Housing-Related Activities and Services for Individuals with Disabilities.

The resolve also directs the department to review any waivers or state plan amendments available under Title XIX of the United States Social Security Act to stabilize access to safe and affordable housing for individuals with disabilities, older adults, individuals needing long-term services and supports and persons experiencing chronic homelessness through the provision of housing transition, tenancy sustainment and case management services and to collaborate with the Maine State Housing Authority to determine how resources may be leveraged more effectively to address housing needs. As part of its review, the department is required to convene a stakeholder group to solicit input regarding methods to improve health outcomes through greater housing stability.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-349)