

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL AND SECOND REGULAR SESSIONS



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

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

November 2020

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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

LD 1350 An Act To Improve Rural Health Care

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T PERRY A	OTP-AM	S-259

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill provides that, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2019, student loan payments made by a taxpayer's employer directly to a lender on behalf of a qualified health care employee are not included in federal adjusted gross income for Maine income tax purposes. The bill also directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II and Chapter III regarding reimbursement to rural and nonrural hospitals, acute care critical access hospitals and rural health clinics.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-259)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It changes the reimbursement for acute care critical access hospitals to 100% for all hospital-based physician costs rather than facility and physician costs.
2. It clarifies that rural health clinics are paid under an alternative payment methodology option that is the same as the current system except for rebasing costs to 2016 and 2017 costs as long as the rural health clinics are not paid less than the current reimbursement rate.
3. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to submit any necessary state plan amendments to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services no later than January 1, 2020. Rulemaking must be completed by the department within 180 days of receiving federal approval.
4. It adds language to clarify that taxpayers cannot claim a double benefit for educational opportunity tax credits.
5. It adds an appropriations and allocations section.

The substance of this bill was incorporated into Public Law 2019, chapter 530 (LD 1028 in TAX).

This bill was again carried over, still on the Special Appropriations Table, to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.

LD 1373 Resolve, To Reduce MaineCare Spending through Targeted Nutrition Interventions

ONTP

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

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

This resolve was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to file an application with the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a demonstration waiver to allow for reimbursement of medically tailored food and nutrition interventions when a health care provider determines that certain elements of nutrition or foods based upon a nutrition plan developed by a licensed dietitian are necessary for a patient's health. This resolve also directs the Department of Health and Human Services to file the application by October 1, 2019 with the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to request that home-delivered meals be reimbursable under MaineCare as directed by Resolve 2015, chapter 54.

LD 1377 An Act To Enhance and Improve the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board and To Establish the Aging and Disability Mortality Review Panel CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MADIGAN C	OTP-AM	H-604

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill establishes the Panel To Review Deaths of and Serious Injuries to Persons with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism. The panel consists of 14 members, including a panel coordinator who is an employee of the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and is a registered nurse. The panel coordinator must review all cases of death of and serious injury to persons with intellectual disabilities or autism receiving adult developmental services and determine those that require further review by the panel. Other individuals may refer cases to the panel, and the panel may choose additional cases from the list of cases provided by the panel coordinator. The panel has access to records necessary for the review. The panel must provide reports to the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board with findings and recommendations. The panel is required to provide reports to the Legislature on an annual basis and may provide trend analyses to the Legislature as necessary. Legislative reports are public documents.

The bill also makes changes to the laws governing the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board. It requires disclosure of final reports of investigations pursuant to the Adult Protective Services Act to the board and to the guardian of the person receiving adult developmental services who is the subject of the investigation. It provides the executive director with direct access to client records maintained by the Department of Health and Human Services and to medical examiner reports and records of department investigations into suspicious deaths of persons with intellectual disabilities or autism. It shifts administration of the board's budget to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services. It clarifies the appointment process for members of the board.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-604)

This amendment replaces the bill. It establishes the Aging and Disability Mortality Review Panel to review deaths of and serious injuries to all adults receiving home-based and community-based services under a waiver approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services rather than a panel to review only deaths of or injuries to adults with intellectual disabilities or autism. It removes most of the changes to the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board in the bill. It keeps the provisions related to moving the budget of the board from the Department of Health and Human Services to the Department of