

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

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 1378 An Act To Ensure the Provision of Medical Assessments for Youth in Foster Care

PUBLIC 162

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MADIGAN C | OTP-AM | H-215 |

This bill requires that, when a child is ordered into the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services, the department must provide to the foster home in which the child is placed an overview of the child's medical condition and the name and contact information of the child's health care provider at the time of placement, if known. The bill also requires the department to ensure that a child receives an appointment for a medical examination within 3 working days of when the department's custody commences, instead of within 10 days as in current law, and requires that the department inform the foster parent of the appointment.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-215)

This amendment, which is the unanimous report of the committee, replaces the bill. It clarifies that the Department of Health and Human Services shall ensure that a child ordered into its custody receives a medical examination by a licensed physician or nurse practitioner within 10 working days after the department's custody of the child commences. It requires the department to adopt routine technical rules that allow for reimbursement under MaineCare for a comprehensive medical, dental, educational and behavioral assessment, which includes obtaining relevant records, when a child enters the custody of the department.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 162 clarifies that the Department of Health and Human Services shall ensure that a child ordered into its custody receives a medical examination by a licensed physician or nurse practitioner within 10 working days after the department's custody of the child commences. It requires the department to adopt routine technical rules that allow for reimbursement under MaineCare for a comprehensive medical, dental, educational and behavioral assessment, which includes obtaining relevant records, when a child enters the custody of the department.

LD 1399 An Act To Improve Oral Health and Access to Dental Care for Maine Children

HELD BY GOVERNOR

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| GRAMLICH L MOORE M | OTP-AM | H-249 S-343 BREEN C |

This bill establishes within the Department of Health and Human Services one Oral Health Coordinator position in the oral health program within the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, rural health and primary care division to lead the State's work on oral health; one Planning and Research Associate II position in the rural health and primary care division within the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention tasked with data analysis, performance management reporting and program planning and evaluation; and one Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment Dental Coordinator position in the Office of MaineCare Services. The bill also provides funding to expand preventive oral health services provided in schools through the oral health program within the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, rural health and primary care division to all schools in the State and a half-time Office Assistant II position to provide logistical and administrative support for that expansion.

Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

Committee Amendment "A" (H-249)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It replaces the appropriations and allocations section to remove the funding to expand preventive oral health services provided in schools.
2. It removes the descriptions of the responsibilities of two positions created in the bill to provide the Department of Health and Human Services flexibility.
3. It removes the interim report on the oral health program.
4. It requires a report on the status of the oral health program rather than on the expansion of the program since the funding to expand the program has been removed.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-343)

This amendment requires the Department of Health and Human Services, when completing the report on oral health care services provided in schools, to include methods for utilization and maximization of Medicaid funding for oral health staff positions and school-based services. This amendment also changes the date for submission of the report to February 15, 2020. The amendment removes the funding for new positions in the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention but retains the position in the Office of MaineCare Services.

LD 1403 An Act To Amend the General Assistance Laws Governing Reimbursement

CARRIED OVER

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BRENNAN M CHIPMAN B | OTP-AM ONTP | H-514 |

This bill establishes presumptive eligibility for general assistance for persons who are provided shelter at emergency shelters for the homeless. It also reestablishes the 90% reimbursement rate for municipalities that incur net general assistance costs in any fiscal year in excess of .0003 of that municipality's most recent state valuation, which was amended in Public Law 2015, chapter 267, Part SSSS. It retains the 70% reimbursement rate for other municipalities and Indian tribes for costs below the .0003% of all state valuation amount.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-514)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, removes the section of the bill relating to presumptive eligibility. It also grants 100% reimbursement for general assistance costs to Indian tribes. It clarifies that the municipality's most recent state valuation rather than the all state valuation is used for calculating when a municipality begins to be reimbursed 90% for general assistance costs and that the reimbursement is for gross costs rather than net costs. It establishes that the new departmental reimbursement to municipalities begins July 1, 2020.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.